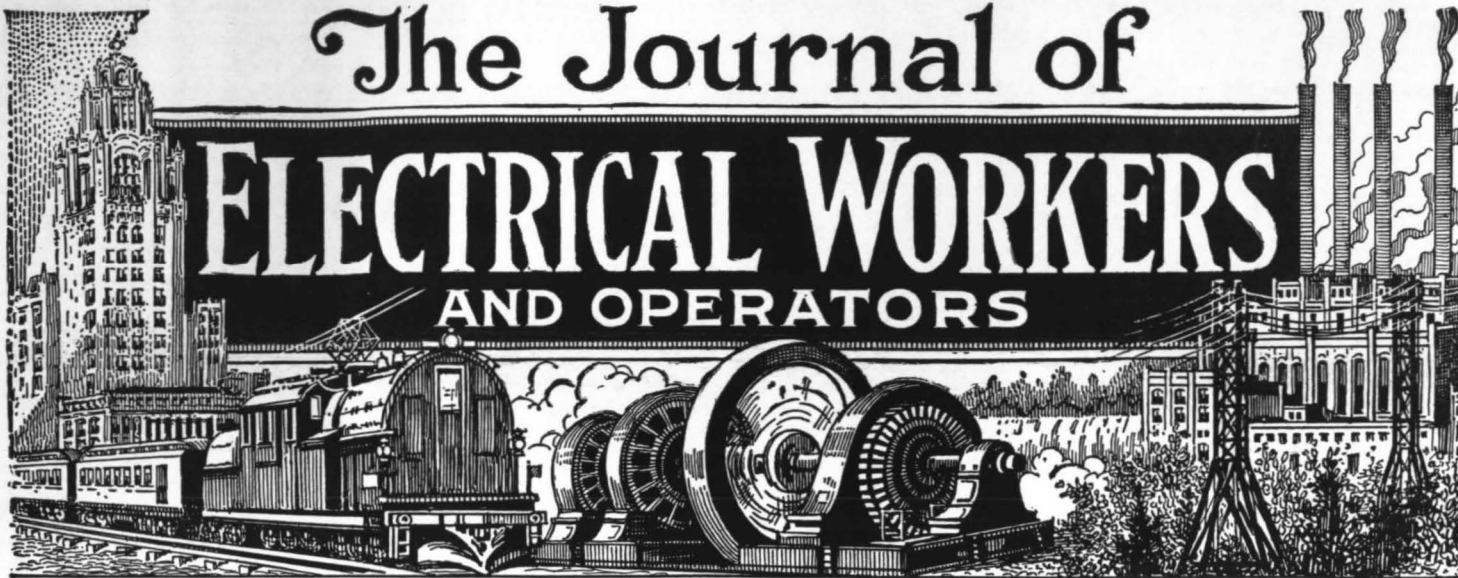


The Journal of **ELECTRICAL WORKERS** AND OPERATORS

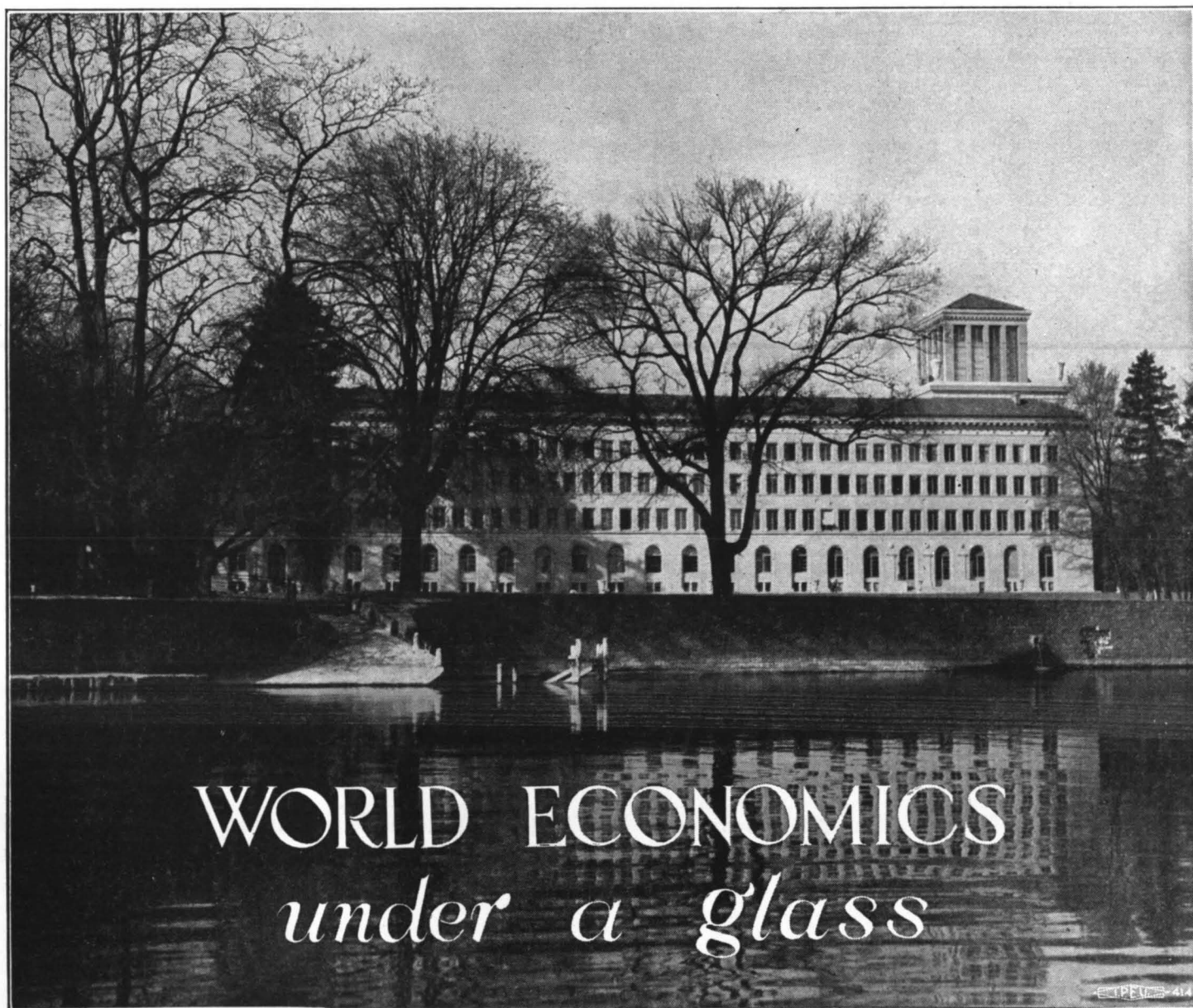


RECORDING • THE • ELECTRICAL • ERA

VOL. XXXIV

WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY, 1935

NO. 7



WORLD ECONOMICS
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ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND OPERATORS**
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Magazine Chat

A correspondent writes to remind us that we have not recently pointed out that the making of a union magazine is a co-operative enterprise. We had not been conscious of this delinquency because the fact is always present before us.

The paper that the Journal is printed upon is manufactured in unionized mills, sent to the publishing place on railroads which are unionized, and printed by pressmen and printers also firmly established in unions.

Sympathetic friends the world over reach out helping hands to this Journal with suggestions for improvement, ideas for articles and stories themselves, with tips, with contributions which go to make up the panorama of labor life.

Now this Journal this month appears to have widened somewhat its already international scope upon the North American continent and has secured the co-operation of friends in Europe to undertake to describe the important International Labour Conference held at Geneva. This means that in one way or another the Journal has directly and remotely the co-operation of about 40 industrial nations of the earth so that it may describe again the drama of the labor struggle for its readers.

It is no wonder therefore that we like to hymn the praises of co-operation. We have repeatedly asserted that all good things in this life are the results of co-operation. Competition has never created anything actually except more competition, controversy, struggle and war.

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QUESTIONS WITHOUT ANSWERS

Ships ply between nations.

Cables—eloquent wires—carry men's words across the world.

Planes annihilate continents—and bridge oceans.

The earth shrinks. Men are physical brothers.

Why is it, then, that wars occur?

Why do men—why do Jean, Juan, John and Hans claw at each other's throats

In a world so small? Why?

—John Gray Mullen





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Geneva: Clearing House of World Labor

Geneva.

AMERICAN workers are familiar with the word "Geneva" for there is a Geneva, New York, and there is a Lake Geneva in Wisconsin. Whether Geneva, Switzerland, has any real meaning for the great bulk of American workers, your correspondent has no way of knowing. However, this beautiful city on the shores of Lake Geneva (Lac Lemman) has been for many years, we could almost say centuries, wrapped up with the destiny and history of America. For instance, your correspondent came suddenly the other day upon Uncle Tom's Cabin (A la Case de l'Oncle Tom), founded in 1866, a café that still enjoys an excellent patronage. There is the Quai Wilson, named after President Wilson, and a memorial to his services in founding the League of Nations. At the International Labour Office there is a room dedicated to the memory of Samuel Gompers containing that leader's picture and reminiscent of his services in suggesting to President Wilson the original idea for an international labor conference. More than this the history of Geneva is bound up with the history of man's struggle for freedom and humanity's emancipation. This city has been the refuge for all kinds of rebels and protestants for hundreds of years. Jean Jacques Rousseau, whose philosophy reverberates in the American Declaration of Independence; Voltaire, who struck such valiant blows for reasoned liberalism, are closely associated with Geneva. Rousseau was born here and Voltaire lived here a portion of his life. For nearly a century before the American Revolution the dominant philosophy and directive force in American history emanated from John Calvin, who came to Geneva because it was a free city and founded a university here, and who lives today in stone in one of the most beautiful memorials ever erected in any city of the world. So, Geneva is not a stranger to an American who steps for the first time from the train's platform, and Geneva citizens are the most cosmopolitan group your correspondent has ever met, who understand Americans, who do not laugh at their peculiarities, and who welcome them in their own town.

The International Labour Conference, which opened here June 4, brings 388 representatives of 48 nations. One hundred and fifty-one of these are official

A close-up of the dramatic sessions of the International Labour Conference at Geneva, Switzerland. American labor delegates participated for the first time.

delegates and 232 official advisers. These delegates and advisers bring brief cases and bags full of data, economic information, and research of the latest type from their own nations, and reports are made on the floor of the conference and in committees, which perhaps give the most vivid and totalitarian view of world economics, at least that important section of it bearing upon labor and social questions, which is afforded nowhere else in the world.

The machinery of the conference can be best understood by American workers by thinking of two familiar deliberative bodies, namely, the United States Congress and the American Federation of Labor convention. The International Labour Conference is in truth a congress. It is made up of two parts of government delegates, one part of labor delegates, and one part of employer delegates. These sit much in the same way as Senators do in Congress, carrying on debate and listening to speeches in much the same way, with all the mechanics of a deliberative assembly, daily bulletins, daily records, and such other necessary accompaniments. It is truly amazing how skillful and efficient are the workings of this congress of nations. The other comparison, that is, between the conference and the American Federation of Labor convention, places the secretariat of the International Labour Conference, namely, the International Labour Office, as the research section of that body; the governing body of the conference may be compared to the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, whereas the convention proper may be compared to the conference proper.

Americans are in the habit of thinking of nations in terms of large aggregates of states, dominated by large aggregates of business and capital. This is a rough description of our own United States and perhaps a rough description of the Em-

pire of Great Britain and the Republic of France. It is a curious commentary upon this conference that it is led and dominated, and ably led and wisely dominated, by representatives of small countries. In the first place, Geneva is in a small country where freedom is loved and defended so much that the Swiss have no time to talk about it. The leader of the employers' group in the conference is Dr. H. C. Oersted, from another small country, Denmark. The leader of the workers' group is Corneille Mertens, general secretary of the Belgian Trade Union Committee. He, it is to be noted, is also from a small country. One might philosophize about this phenomenon. In the first place, these leaders are immensely able and are linguists of great ability. Dr. Oersted is said to speak more than 10 languages and Mertens has a command of English, French, German and Flemish (Dutch). In the second place, the rest of the conference does not fear these small nations as economic and industrial rivals. Perhaps there may be rivalry between the larger countries such as Great Britain, France, and the United States, but Belgium, Denmark, and Switzerland, through their representatives, are capable of looking at a question with more objectivity than the representatives of the great monopolistic countries.

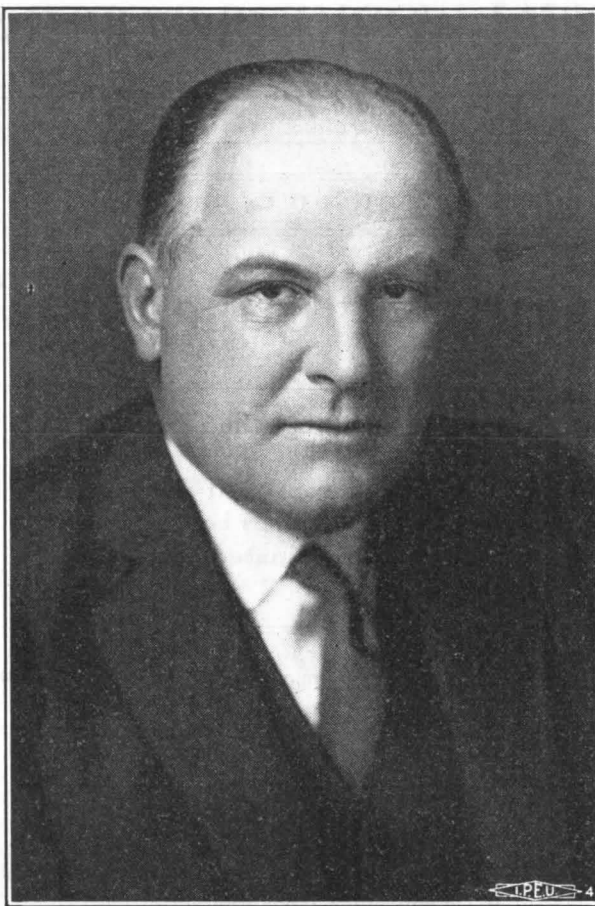
Mertens is a true Flemish type, tall, broad-shouldered, with a heavy, dark moustache, eloquent and dynamic but the soul of courtesy and consideration. He has, of course, come up through the ranks of his organization and at one time, he told your correspondent, he knew only the Flemish language and found difficulties in making his local reports to the headquarters at Brussels, so he went to night school to learn French. He has been in America, is very much interested in everything that goes on in our country, and has promised himself future visits to the United States. A bookbinder by trade, he is especially interested in the typographical crafts. He was at the first conference of the International Labour Organization, held in Washington in 1919—the conference at which the United States appeared only as an observer. Mertens has been the president of the workers' group for many years and has won a reputation for extreme fairness and for his vigorous defense of the workers' rights upon the floor of the conference.

With Mertens should be grouped Jouhaux (Léon Jouhaux, general secretary, General Confederation of Labor). Jouhaux is a Gallic type, big and burly, with the look of a French chef or a French cavalier—take your choice. Though Mertens speaks French, and though Belgium is supposed to be closely related to the French nation, the two types are singularly different. Jouhaux is explosive, eloquent, but also with the hard clarity of the Gallic temperament. He is very popular and is sent in by the workers' group often into debate where not only argument is necessary but also impassioned utterance.

Arthur Hayday (vice president of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers) is just as much an Englishman as Jouhaux is French and Mertens Flemish. He has the unqualified allegiance of the large British workers' delegation. In his own country he is a justice of the peace and speaks well, often with burning invective against British employers.

N. Schevenels (secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions), also representative of a small country, originally the Netherlands, and leader of the international group to which Samuel Gompers gave his allegiance, is associated with Mertens, Jouhaux and Hayday. To this group now has come Tracy, the American. He has been accepted by the leaders as one of their own kind and will be a nice supplement to their methods and policies with his cool decisiveness and political sense.

The United States delegation deserves mention here. Strangely enough, American workers think of their government and the employers as citadels of conservatism but the United States delegation as a whole has led the left wing of the conference but with such intelligence and finesse that it has won the respect of the entire body. Miss Grace Abbott, former head of the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor, heads the delegation and has been appointed chairman of the committee on the unemployment of youth. Her speech on the opening day won a great deal of applause. Walton Hamilton, of the National Industrial Recovery Board, probably gave the most brilliant address of the entire session when he spoke on the question of the reduction of hours by stating the background rather than the statistics of the question. The other delegate, besides Miss Abbott, Mr. Hamilton, and Mr. Tracy, is Sam A. Lewisohn, a New York banker and member of the copper industry, who has devoted a large part of his life in the American Management Association to liberalizing employers' psychology. Lewisohn is the antithesis of James Emery, counsel for the National Manufacturers Association, who is the nearest American counterpart



HAROLD BUTLER

Great Britain, Director of the International Labour Office. He is Head of a Staff of More Than 450 Statisticians, Research Men, and Economists.

to Dr. Oersted, leader of the employers' group in the conference. Oersted's temperament is much like that of Emery, but in appearance, as described by an American at the conference, Oersted simulates a cartoon of a trust.

John Winant, former governor of New Hampshire, and Lewis L. Lorwin, economist, are now connected with the I. L. O., and gave assistance to the delegation. The executive council of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers was represented.

Early in the sessions of the conference the employers made an attack on the entire philosophy of negotiation, arbitration and the determination of legislation by facts by refusing to sit upon important committees. Mr. Lewisohn refused to cooperate in this employers' policy and after three days' debate it looked as though a deadlock had been reached and the basic philosophy of the conference was in jeopardy. Again the small nations came to the rescue. A government delegate from the Irish Free State sharply criticized the employers' stand on the ground that the entire procedure of the conference was affected and there was danger that the conference as a legislative body on social questions would be entirely undermined. Dramatically enough, the government delegate from Denmark, Dr. Oersted's own nation, seconded the position of the Irish delegate

and the government delegate from France supported these two and the government delegate from the United States gave them additional support. This stand influenced the president of the conference, Colonel the Honorable Frederic Hugh Page Creswell, of the Union of South Africa (another small nation), to confer with the employers' group, with the result that the deadlock was broken and the employers consented to sit on committees.

Here is an excerpt from Dr. Hamilton's important address:

"It is well to note that the problem of hours of labor was not one which was deliberately created; it is one which we stumbled into without ever seeing that it was ahead of us. In the old days of agriculture and the crafts, there was a very long working day, but that day was more than a working day; it was in a way a way of life. The tempo was not hard; it had a great deal of variety; social intercourse was mingled with work; one saw the members of the community as they came to the workshop, and in the diversity and variety of that day one got something of the fullness of life. Now, the real revolutionists of the nineteenth century were not the radicals, were not those who engaged in propaganda for changing the order of things; the real revolutionists were the technicians who invented a new technology and the businessmen who proceeded to give effect to it. They did so with the single idea of pushing forward industry and business, and with very little regard to the effect on the older ways of life, and so it happened that when the machine came along hours of labor were taken over from the crafts and the handicrafts. It is no use blaming the people responsible; they simply followed the conventional ways, and they did not understand that the machine was in a sense a master, that it set its own ways, and demanded its own meed of toil from those who were called upon to operate it."

Here is an excerpt from an address by Sam Lewisohn made in Geneva, but not this year, which indicates his point of view in regard to employers:

"But as I have said, it is doubly unfortunate when the class feeling of the employing class (the 'elder brother') renders the executives of this class emotionally unfit to lead men. That is the reason why many of us in America feel that one of the most important steps in solving our industrial problem is what we call 'The Education of the Employer.' We feel that it is essential that means may be provided of making certain that those who by any chance may in later life become industrial executives have an adequate appreciation of the importance of the technique of personnel administration. They should, also, of course, have

a sufficient knowledge of the background of the whole industrial problem to be free from any class consciousness. Some of us have, for this reason, been interested in making certain that courses are provided for those who may become industrial managers, so that they may have an adequate understanding of the emotional and administrative requirements of their positions."

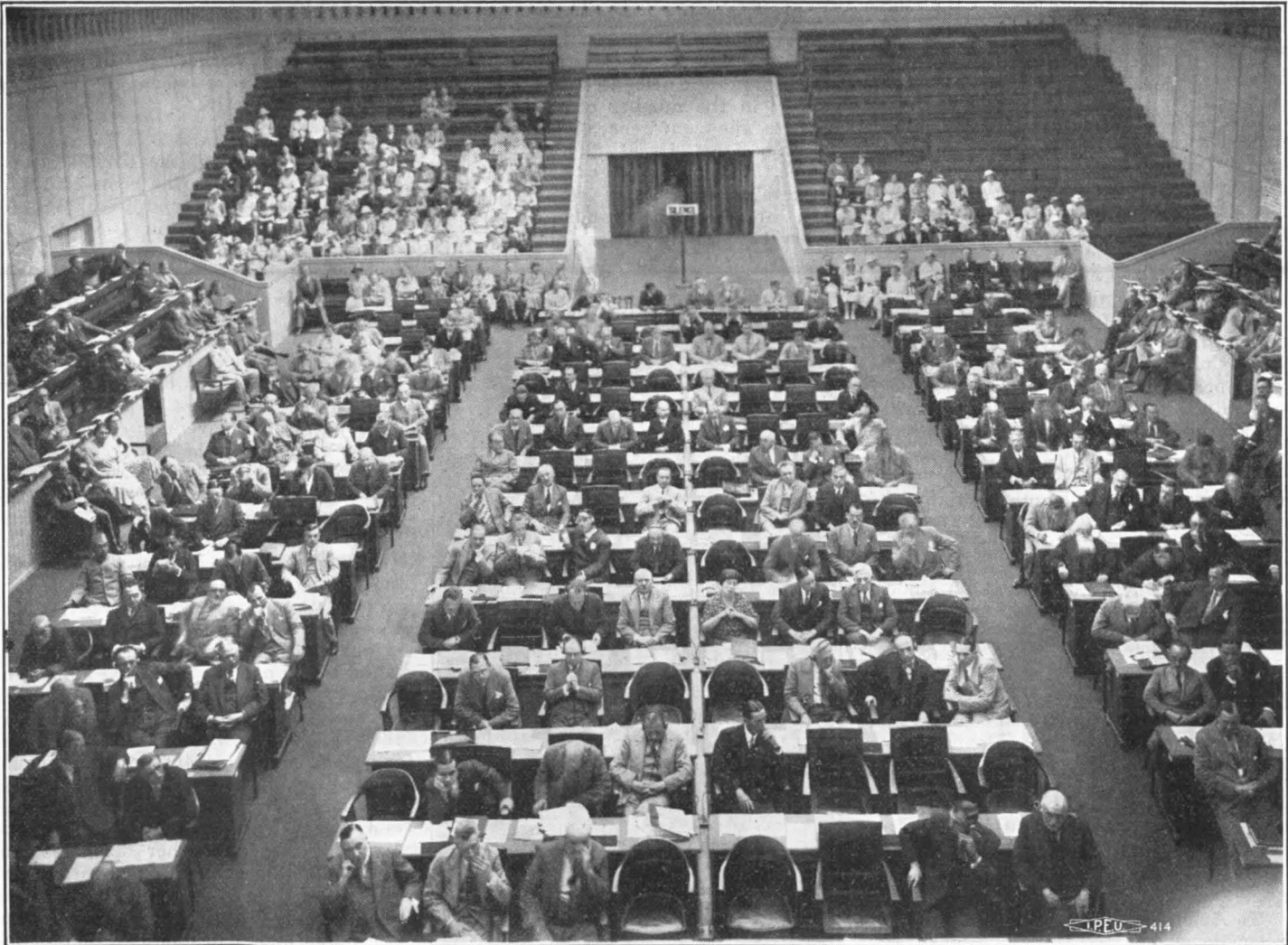
The work of the conference is done through caucuses and committees. The workers' group caucus meets as a whole and so do the employers' group and the government delegates. However, the government delegates do not function so often in this way. They appear on the whole to have some conception of their function as the arbitrating and balancing group in the conference. I suppose in late years more often than not they have voted with the workers' group, inasmuch as Dr. Oersted represents such a reactionary and old-fashioned policy. Tracy became a vice chairman of the workers' group and sat between Hayday and Mertens at the head table. The table arrangement is a good deal like that of a banquet in the United States. At the head table, Mertens is flanked by Tracy and Hayday on

the right and by Jouhaux and Schevenels on the left. Down one long table to the right the English-speaking worker delegates sit, representatives from South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, and the United States. Down the center table sit the Latin delegates, led largely by the French, and down at the other table sit the Germanic and Slavic representatives. The caucus is a miniature conference. Your correspondent did not have the opportunity to view the caucuses of the employers' or government group.

At this juncture something might be said about the language and its importance at this conference. Americans are not linguists. Those of us who have some knowledge of French and German have usually a book knowledge which we rapidly forget, when we have no opportunity to hear the spoken word. This problem at the conference is taken care of through interpreters, and usually not three but six languages are the rule at these caucuses, the others being Swedish, Polish and Italian. The interpreters are young men who have an amazing facility for hearing an entire speech, maybe of 15 minutes, and reproducing it in another

tongue. True, this interpretation is free rather than exact, but it is effective. The three official languages of the caucus and conference are German, French and English, but where other languages are needed the delegations bring their own interpreters. In the conference room proper a telephonic system, invented by Edward Filene, of Boston, enables interpretations in five languages to go forward at one time. The chosen language of each hearer wearing earphones is cut in by means of a switch, while all the others are cut out.

Naturally, the conference is a swirl of international politics. This is to be expected and cannot be avoided. This political tide moves through a convention of social amenities and extreme politeness. Americans, with their direct and sometimes bold attack of problems, were at first chilled by this atmosphere of diplomacy but as they saw the social value of treating members of other nations and temporary opponents with courtesy and regard they, too, began to soften somewhat accustomed methods. It must not be supposed that because politeness is a vehicle of the conference that blows are not given and taken and that the class



THE ASSEMBLY HALL OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.

Here President Tracy Acted as American Labor Delegate. Representatives from 40 Nations Met Here in Deliberative Effort for Three Weeks to Set up Common Standards of Social Justice for all Nations. Note System of Translating Speeches Through the Individual Telephone Method.

struggle does not move forward with the same impetus that it does in American gatherings. It does. Then, too, during working hours, and these hours are long, violating not only the 40-hour week rule but perhaps the 100-hour week rule (business agents should see that the delegates keep union hours), there is a flood of receptions, teas, luncheons and dinners where delegates meet and greet each other but also transact business of a kind.

One of the most interesting gatherings among workers was that called by the International Federation of Building and Wood Workers with headquarters at Amsterdam. This organization is an international organization of building trades unions including Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Sweden among its members. It is ably led and knows what the conference is all about. Recently the British building trades unions have concluded by negotiation a national agreement which brought about a two-cent-an-hour increase in wages, a truly remarkable advance in time of depression. The Swedish building trades unions have just concluded an 11-months' strike with considerable success. This organization held a dinner at the Hotel des Alpes, to which President Tracy was invited. It was an informal gathering but the character of the speeches and discussion was not only social but also vital in a trade union sense.

President Tracy is not only a member of the governing body of the International Labour Conference; he has won positions on important committees. He was named to the selection committee, the all-powerful steering committee of the conference, the committee of committees which decides the make-up and character of the other committees. He was named to the reduction of hours committee, upon which his adviser, M. H. Hedges, sat, and to the unemployment of youth committee, upon which his other adviser, Spencer Miller, sat. The agenda this year was made up of the following important questions:

I. Maintenance of the rights in course of acquisition and acquired rights of migrant workers under invalidity, old age and widows' and orphans' insurance (second discussion).

II. Employment of women on underground work in mines of all kinds (second discussion).

III. Unemployment among young persons (first discussion or single discussion according as the conference decides).

IV. Recruiting of labor in colonies and in other territories with analogous labor conditions (first discussion).

V. Holidays with pay (first discussion).

VI. Reduction of hours of work.

VII. Partial revision of the hours of work (coal mines) convention, 1931.

To American workers these topics may seem somewhat barren and not of immediate interest and yet the 40-hour week produced a tremendous conflict within the conference. A most vivid debate brought

in all the questions of machine production, hours of labor, high-wage philosophy, and kindred matters which are familiar to members of the American Federation of Labor. The committee on unemployment of youth was second in point of interest and by the urging of the workers' group it became a matter for settlement at this conference by a vote of 97 to 17.

President Tracy, speaking on the significance of the International Labour Conference over an international hook-up which involved 70 American radio stations, on Sunday, June 9, told his American listeners that he believed the 40-hour week meant the following to American workers: (1) A universal 40-hour week would make easier of attainment a 30-hour week by American unions; (2) that a world labor congress like this one, democratically controlled, is the greatest foe against Fascism and dictatorships; and through this conference (3) agencies are established and media erected which will bring American workers in closer touch with the workers of other nations and enable them to secure valuable information and data on the economic life of these nations.

Advisers in the conference play a part largely in two directions, as experts on any given subject of the agenda and as assistants to the delegates. Nations vary greatly in the number of advisers they send to the conference. The workers' delegate from Great Britain, for instance, Hayday, brought with him 10 workers' advisers, one responsible for each subject on the agenda and three in reserve. Among these advisers was Alonso Swales, who had been fraternal

delegate to the American Federation of Labor convention.

The International Federation of Building and Wood Workers submitted a strong statement to the conference on the matter of shortening hours in the building industry. This resembled a good deal the briefs submitted by building trades unions to the National Recovery Administration of the United States. One section in particular of this statement will be of interest to American workers. It says:

"The extent and importance of mechanization and rationalization in the building industry and industries accessory to it are often underestimated. There may be some industries in which the results achieved in this direction appear to be more striking than in the building industry. Nevertheless, the information available on this subject, which is unfortunately not very abundant, confirms the fact, which we know from our own observation, that in the building industry also human labor has to a very large extent been and is being displaced by machinery. It is sufficient to notice the increasing mechanical equipment of the great building firms, including concrete machines, mortar machines, cranes, hoists, conveyors, excavators, pile drivers, locomotives, electro-motors, etc., in order to realize why so many workers are unemployed even during years when the building trade has been active."

Delegate Tracy, of the United States, had conferences with the heads of many international unions and with William Green before he left for Geneva. Together they worked out policies relative to the position of American labor on the 40-hour week convention. Following conferences with other members of the American delegation, Mr. Tracy learned that he was to receive the support of the American delegation on these policies. In general they were as follows: (1) Nothing in any convention or recommendation adopted by the conference was to be regarded as preventing any organization of unionists from working within their own country for a maximum number of hours less than the 40-hour week. (2) Nothing in the convention or recommendation drafted or passed by the conference was to be regarded as prejudicial to collective bargaining within a given country. (3) American workers were opposed to the policy of averaging hours so that by averaging a high number of hours per week during peak periods of the year and a low number of hours during slack periods a 40-hour week could be secured. The International Federation of Building and Wood Workers had conferences with the delegates from the United States and other delegates and asked that the convention adopted relative to building trades and public works should make sure that: (1) industrial work was included, and (2) that public work should refer not only to the work promulgated by federal governments but



LEIFUR MAGNUSSON
Head of the American Branch of the I. L. O.

(Continued on page 313)

U. S. Workers Learn from 40-Hour Week

By DAN W. TRACY, American Delegate to International Labour Conference

I

Each Nation May in Turn Act as a Laboratory for the Others

WHEN a man leaves his own country and goes to a new one, he is at first acutely conscious of sharp differences. Details loom large in his mind and experience, and he is aware of the barriers that separate nation from nation and people from people. After he has been in a foreign land for a time, providing that he has brought some discerning eye with him and some tolerance of feeling, he begins to be then acutely conscious of likenesses. He is aware then, perhaps for the first time, what the meaning of the term "human family" really is, and if he is inclined to measure history in terms of economics, he will at once see why modern nations have common considerations, are responsive to the same trends and face common problems. These commonplace facts probably have been stated many times in this auditorium. At any rate, I hope you will be patient at my temerity at again stating them, because platitudes do have behind them certain truths and they take on a new meaning in proportion as they are backed by sincere personal experience.

It appears to me that the meaning of this conference is that the nations of the world have common problems and expect to find common solutions for these problems. If this is true, it follows that each nation may serve as a laboratory for the others, in so far as one problem or one phase of a problem goes. America acknowledges a debt to European countries during all these years as a laboratory to test out social insurance policies, and just now in our own country we are turning to this solution of a dread problem, and capitalizing the experience of the European nations.

I have long thought that America's peculiar contribution to the family of nations is modern technology, in so far as it is true that modern technology has advanced more rapidly and has taken possession more earnestly of American industry than perhaps in any other country of the world. We find that the problem of reduction of hours of work has possibly advanced in the United States more rapidly than in any other country. In this sense, the United States may serve as a laboratory for the International Labour Conference. We have the 40-hour week in the United States. We have had it for a number of years. We may say it is a going concern, not a theory or an academic question, and therefore, I have chosen to translate the item on your agenda known as: "The reduction of hours of work, with special reference to: (a) public works undertaken or subsidized by governments;

Declaration made by International President of Electrical Workers at Geneva in June.

(b) iron and steel; (c) building and contracting; (d) glass bottle manufacture; and (e) coal mines," as what United States workers have learned about the 40-hour week.

II

The Status of the 40-Hour Week in United States

In 1908, it is recorded, only 11 known plants in the United States operated on the five-day week basis. The passage in 1912 of an act by Congress, providing for an eight-hour day on all projects to which the federal government was a party in the United States, stimulated organized labor in America to advocate the 40-hour week. The beginning of the shorter hour movement may be said to be from 1912. In that year a resolution was introduced in the American Federation of Labor convention—though it must be pointed out that the whole philosophy of the American Federation of Labor had implied in it a progressive lowering of hours, as machinery took the place of man-power. In 1921, the after-the-war depression brought more plants in the United States to a consideration of the 40-hour week, and it is recorded that 25 plants operated on a 40-hour week in 1921. In 1925, this number had increased to 51. In the fol-

lowing year, 1926, certain industrialists greatly stimulated the movement by placing certain industries on the 40-hour week.

Now then, as if unconsciously anticipating the fact that purchasing power was not keeping up with production and that technological unemployment was rapidly increasing, there came a vigorous campaign by organized labor in the United States for the 40-hour week. The following table traces the progress of this campaign:

40-Hour or Five-Day Week Among Organized Workers

Year	No. of A. F. L. Members Working 40 Hr. Week	Total No. of A. F. L. Members	Ratio of A. F. L. Members Working 40 Hr. Week
1926	40,569*	2,803,966	1.4%*
1927	70,500*	2,812,526	2.5%*
1928	165,029	2,896,063	5.7%
1929	514,679	2,933,545	17.5%
1930	557,921	2,961,096	18.2%
1931	601,461	2,889,550	20.8%
1932	556,695	2,532,261	21.2%
1933	1,240,957	2,126,796	58.3%

Sources: 1926—Survey of 66 cities by the U. S. Department of Labor, quoted in the annual convention report of the Executive Council of the A. F. L. for 1928.

1927—Estimate based on statement by the A. F. L.

1928-1933—Annual convention reports of the Executive Council of the A. F. L. for 1929 to 1934.

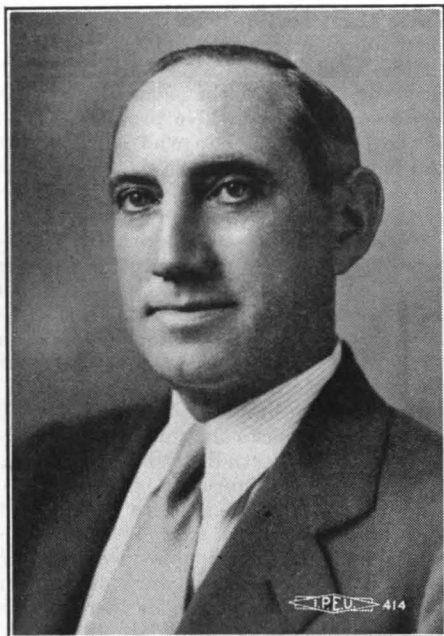
* Probably underestimated.

This progress was among the organized workers of the United States.

At the same time, the unorganized workers were being swung into the trend. It is a safe estimate to make that in 1932 there were three million American workers operating on the 40-hour week. The National Industrial Conference Board, a research organization sponsored by employers, in its study entitled "The Five-Day Week in Manufacturing Industries," made in 1929, listed 270 representative companies operating regularly on the 40-hour week and made assertion that "this evidence does remove the five-day week from the status of a radical and impractical administrative experiment and places it among the plans, which however revolutionary they may appear to some, have demonstrated practicability and usefulness under certain circumstances."

My own organization, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, reported to the National Recovery Administration in January, 1935, that all construction locals—probably 275—were operating on a 40-hour week; that six locals were operating on a 35-hour week; that two locals were operating on a 32-hour week, and that 21 locals were on the 30-hour week.

A study made by Dr. Leon C. Marshall for the National Recovery Admin-



PRESIDENT TRACY SPEAKS AT GENEVA

istration, reveals 585 codes out of 700 administered by the National Recovery Administration, had a basic 40-hour week, or 40 hours or less work week.

This then is the status of the 40-hour week in the United States, and it is no wonder that organized labor looks upon the 40-hour week as nothing more nor less than a way-station in labor's steady progress toward the universal 30-hour work week, or less.

III

Technological Sanctions for 40-Hour Week

Workers of the United States found what held back the movement for shorter hours was not economic, social and technological considerations as much as what might be called psychological barriers. The reactionary state of mind of many employers and the organized effort of certain groups to oppose any measure favored by the American Federation of Labor had to be considered. One of the first arguments used against the 40-hour week was that it would cripple production. As labor got into this contention, labor found that those who worship production almost as a religion were not themselves aware that the capitalistic system was moving upon a policy, practice and philosophy of restricted production. Dr. Sumner H. Slichter, professor of economics at the Harvard School of Business Administration, in his "Modern Economic Society" points out this fact with telling powers:

"It is not, however, merely in times of depression," Dr. Slichter asserts, "that industry fails to produce to capacity. Under existing economic arrangements most business enterprises must normally restrict output in order to avoid jeopardizing their solvency. Consequently, even in busy and prosperous years, our mines and factories normally turn out far less than their equipment and the supply of labor permit. The shoe industry could make 1,750,000 shoes a day but produces little more than half that number; clothing factories operate at less than three-fifths, printing plants at two-thirds, metal working plants at about five-sevenths of their capacity. The bituminous coal industry has an annual capacity of 971,000,000 tons but has never produced more than 579,000,000. It was estimated that in 1923 the Portland Cement industry could produce 140,000,000 barrels annually, but in 1922, boom year in building construction, the output was only 113,870,000. Three per cent of our flour mills, employing 42 per cent of the workers, if operated full time, would make practically all of the flour we use. The automobile industry in 1923 was equipped to turn out approximately 4,500,000 cars, but though the demand for cars in that year was unprecedented, the output was not more than 4,000,000. How far the production of steel falls short of what it might be is indicated by the fact that during the last 30 years an average of only 60 per cent

of the blast furnace capacity of the country has been in operation. Even in the most prosperous and busy years the percentage has not been as high as 90. In fact, every industry concerning which we have information appears normally to produce far below the limits set by the existing supplies of labor and equipment and the prevailing state of efficiency."

More recently, the study made by the Brookings Institution entitled "America's Capacity To Produce," supported this point of view with indisputable facts. The Brookings report showed that "our productive system as a whole was operated 80 per cent of capacity in 1929 and slightly less than that, if we take the average of five years, 1925-1929." In short, the argument that curtailed hours crippled production fell to the ground as ignoble when the whole business system of the United States was engaged in a steadfast policy of crippling production; what Veblen called sabotage of business.

Decline in the hours worked per week, to go further into this question, does not necessarily mean a fall in production. This is a truism among engineers. President William Green of the American Federation of Labor pointed out in his recent pamphlet, "The Five-Day Week," that "studies of women turning fuse bodies in a munitions plant show the following results: when working 66 hours per week, they turn out 100 units of production per hour; when working 54 hours per week, 134 units; when reduced to 45 hours per week, 158 units." In our own industry—the construction industry—we found contractors willing to admit that the five-day week did not produce curtailment in production. Mr. H. H. Fox, vice president of the Turner Construction Company of New York City, contributing an article to the December 7, 1929, number of the "American Contractor," declared that three factors entered into increased efficiency under the new regime of the 40-hour week. These three factors were: (1) improvement in management and construction; (2) reduced rate of expense in building construction; (3) the attitude of the workmen. He says, "No proof is needed of the fact that a man who is ambitious and contented does better work than the one who feels that the future has little in store for him."

Technologically considered, the construction industry presented a proper field for the introduction of the short work week. As early as 1921, the President of the United States had called a conference to study unemployment. This conference declared, "It is the general rule that the building trades, occupied wholly for three to five months, in practically all cities studied, showed a large percentage of idleness in these trades, not only from December to March but in other months as well." The President's conference recommended that an effort be made to space work over other months of the year, and the introduction of the short work week would aid in the technological problem of spacing.

Some contractors in the building construction field aided in the practical application of the 40-hour week by working out plans whereby crews could be shifted on a five-day week basis but that continuous production on a six-day week could be secured.

IV

Economic Sanctions for the 40-Hour Week

Yesterday the 40-hour week was a dream. This morning it was an academic question. Today noon it is an actuality, so swift are the industrial changes that go forward beneath the surface.

Economists for the New York Trust Company in 1926 estimated that 1,625,000 new men had been absorbed into the automobile, radio and tourist businesses. The deduction was that these men have been displaced from other manufacturing industries by time-saving devices, but these figures on re-absorptions failed to indicate at all the extent of displacement since 1920. Senator Shipstead about that time, using Department of Labor's figures, showed that 8,000,000 men had been forced into unemployment since 1920. Deducting the figures for re-absorption, we get the staggering figure of 6,000,000 (approximately) unemployed men. This trend has not been interrupted even in the depression. There is not a particle of doubt that machines are creating a problem, more extensive and entirely different from any previously met. The industrial revolution wrought by steam a century ago was a zephyr compared with the transformation of hurricane size now going forward.

Incidentally it should be remarked that tender-minded persons who saw in Henry Ford's introduction of the five-day week an act of charity, or a piece of industrial statesmanship, were foolish. The automobile industry, where mass production obtains, was forced to make this adjustment.

It seems wise, therefore, to ask the questions: What can the 40-hour week do? What can't it do? And like all economic questions, it is not so simple as it appears. In the first place, there is more than one kind of unemployment.

1. Unemployment due to yearly rise and fall of business (Seasonal).
2. Unemployment due to cyclical ebb and flow of business (Cyclical).
3. Unemployment due to displacement of men by machines (Technological).

In the second place, prosperity, which may be defined as a condition of steady work for all at a wage that will give opportunity for savings and self-development for every member of the family, depends on many conditions. Let us enumerate some of the conditions affecting prosperity:

1. On national resources involved in production. A poor country can't

(Continued on page 313)

Labor Department Is 50 Years Old

(Editor's Note: Counting the feeble beginnings, the U. S. Department of Labor is a half century old this year. As a department of cabinet rank it is yet new, however. Under the aggressive, yet wise leadership of the present Secretary of Labor, the department has won standing in the government.)

IN 1865 toward the close of the Civil War there met in Louisville a handful of labor leaders to consider the feasibility of forming a cohesive, national organization of labor unions. At this gathering there were discussed many plans, some of them immediately practicable, others of them utterly utopian. One of the wildest dreams put forward in this group was that labor should one day have a department of its own in the federal government, with its own representative sitting with the cabinet of the nation's President.

This early effort, like many others which followed, failed of its purpose to found an enduring national labor organization. But such a body, the forerunner of the American Federation of Labor, was finally established in Pittsburgh, 17 years later. At the Pittsburgh convention attention became focused upon a youthful cigarmaker, 31 years old, who arose from his place to urge upon the assembly the imperativeness that accurate figures concerning wages and working conditions throughout the country be readily available to trade unionists to aid them in their collective bargaining negotiations. Such information, he said, should be gathered by an impartial, yet powerful agency—the national government. He strongly advocated that the members of his audience endorse and work for the establishment of a federal bureau authorized to collect and disseminate labor statistics and “to supply data for the formulation of industrial policies and legislation.” This stockily built young cigarmaker, who in 1886, five years later, was to become the first president of the American Federation of Labor, was Samuel Gompers.

Ever since the Pittsburgh congress, labor conventions have been held annually. At the third one, in 1883, Gompers as chairman again addressed the assembly on the subject of a national bureau of labor information. This time he said, “A bureau of labor statistics should also be organized in order that legislators who now plead ignorance and fail to represent workingmen may have a headquarters for obtaining information and be unable longer to plead ignorance.”

So insistent became labor's drive for a national labor board that the following year one was

Has honorable history, but more progress has been made in last two years than in first 30.

finally authorized by law, as a division of the Department of the Interior. First known as the United States Bureau of Labor, the new agency, under the leadership of Carroll D. Wright, was officially set in operation in 1885, during the presidency of Grover Cleveland, just 50 years ago. Three years later—and only two years after the launching of the American Federation of Labor itself—the Bureau of Labor was made the Department of Labor, with independent functions, but without the status of an executive department. No essential change was made in the work of the organization at the time.

Works for Cabinet Rank

Still labor was not satisfied. It wanted a cabinet member, a United States Secretary of Labor. Long years of political endeavor followed, of lobbying in Washington, of championing for labor candidates throughout the country during congressional campaigns. Labor also began to realize a need for more than just facts and figures. In 1903 a new federal

branch, the Department of Commerce and Labor, was created. Under the new set-up the former Department of Labor became the Federal Bureau of Labor. Half of an executive department was little better than a non-executive department; a commissioner was not a secretary, and labor still had no spokesman in the President's cabinet.

In the 10 years' struggle which ensued, the militant chief of the American Federation of Labor came to be jocularly known among his foes as “Dictator Gompers.” Little progress could be made in Congress because of intense hostility to labor's cause on the part of the Speaker of the House of Representatives at that time, the Hon. Joseph G. Cannon. Speaker Cannon consistently appointed foes of labor to report on legislative bills introduced or advocated by the Federation; if labor bills seemed likely of passing, he contrived to prevent them from coming up for a final vote.

Three important matters of labor legislation were before Congress during this period. They concerned the establishment of a federal department of labor, the prohibition of the use of injunction writs against trade unions and the interpretation of the Sherman anti-trust laws with regard to labor organizations. Originally both the injunction and the anti-trust laws had been intended to refer only to property, but employers and the courts had immediately seized them as weapons of combat in industrial disputes. Human labor was thus legally placed upon a commodity or chattel basis.

Wilson Moves Into Picture

Gompers eagerly sought relief from this injustice. He caused a series of anti-injunction and anti-trust measures to be introduced in Congress, among them two presented by Representative William B. Wilson of Pennsylvania, who had formerly been secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America. But the combined efforts of manufacturers and politicians successfully blocked labor's bills through the 60th Congress.

The interposition of political obstacles in the path of the normal economic activities of labor was the final stroke which galvanized into operation for the first time the enormous political power of the American labor movement.

In the closing moments of the 61st Congress, labor saw its opportunity. It introduced in the House of Representatives the following amendment to that part of the sundry civil bill which provided appropriations to be used by the United States Department of Justice in prosecuting anti-trust cases:



Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, Who Has Brought the Department of Labor to a New Point of Prestige Among Those Departments of the Government.

"Provided, however, that no part of this money shall be expended in the prosecution of an organization or individual for entering into combination or agreement having in view the increasing of wages, shortening of hours, or bettering conditions of labor or for any act done in furtherance thereof, not in itself unlawful."

The sundry civil bill, carrying the labor proviso was passed by the House of Representatives but was defeated in the Senate. It then went into a joint conference between House and Senate committeemen, in which the labor amendment caused a dead-lock which was broken only when President Taft cracked his whip, insisting that the proviso be struck from the bill.

The congressional election of 1910 was at hand. Gompers now had a clear-cut vote, recorded in both Houses and showing the labor stand of each congressman. Armed with millions of pamphlets stating the complete course of the sundry civil bill through Congress and the vote thereon of its members, Gompers went to the country at large.

The labor proviso affecting prosecution of anti-trust cases became a major issue in the election campaign. When the 62nd Congress convened, the Republican party, which had been in power for 20 years, found itself out of office. President Taft was faced with a Democratic House of Representatives.

When the sundry civil appropriations bill for the ensuing term came up, at the close of the 62nd Congress, labor again offered its now famous proviso, and at the same time a new bill to create a federal Department of Labor. In Gompers' own words, as recorded in his *Seventy Years of Life and Labor*, what

took place in Washington that week was as follows:

"The bill to create a Department of Labor had been introduced by Representative Sulzer. When the bill was in the making, Sulzer conferred with me upon its specific provisions. Our purpose was to create a Department of Labor along broad constructive principles. The bill passed Congress in the last hours of the 62nd Congress. On Sunday, March 2, I spent a good part of the day at the capitol conferring with various congressmen, including William B. Wilson who was to be the first Secretary of Labor if the President signed the bill creating the Department of Labor.

Representative of Wage Earners

"As a result of my conferences, it was decided that I should seek a conference with President Taft the next morning. I met the President at the appointed time. As soon as I saw him he said, 'I want you to do something for me, but I know you will not do it.' I replied that I did not know, and I reminded him that I had been of some service to him in helping with things he wanted done. President Taft then said, 'If you will take that labor proviso out of the sundry civil bill I will sign the Department of Labor bill.' I replied, 'I can't do that, Mr. President. I can't do it and I won't do it. Besides I think it is essential for that proviso to be where it is, particularly in view of the fact that your Department of Justice has just begun suit in Chicago against two unions. The proviso to which you refer is intended to prevent such things in the future.' Taft replied, 'Well, I suppose the situation is such that I shall have to sign the Department of Labor bill anyway'—which he did. That signature

insured the presence of William B. Wilson, a representative of wage-earners, in President Wilson's cabinet which attended him at his inaugural. This achievement represented efforts extending over a period of 30 years."

So it was that, on a single day's notice in March, 1913, the first Secretary of Labor was sworn in as a member of President Wilson's cabinet. Taft signed the enabling act during his last hours as President, knowing that the Congress would pass the bill over his veto if he did not do so. Such was not the case, however, with the sundry civil bill. President Taft vetoed the latter and stated that the reason for his failure to approve the measure was the labor proviso. With the sundry civil bill vetoed, the situation was such that it was necessary for President Wilson to call an extra session of Congress immediately. There the bill, including the prohibition of the use of federal funds to prosecute trade unions under the anti-trust laws, was passed and approved by President Wilson.

Clayton Act Intertwined

Desite the public recognition of the underlying principles that labor unions are not combinations in restraint of trade and that injunction writs should not be applied to them as a coercive means of insuring industrial peace, it proved difficult for labor to obtain specific legislation stating those doctrines in positive terms. It was not until October 15, 1914, when President Wilson signed the Clayton Anti-Trust Act, that the nation received what Gompers styles "Labor's Magna Charta." The long contested section, inserted at last in the Clayton bill after tireless years of effort by Gompers and his friends, proclaimed:



LUXURIOUS QUARTERS OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR OPPOSITE THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ON 14TH AND CONSTITUTION AVENUE, WASHINGTON. AMERICAN WORKERS FIND THE HOSPITABLE ATMOSPHERE HERE SOMEWHAT OUT OF KEEPING WITH THE EXTREMELY PALATIAL INTERIOR DESIGNED BY A PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION.

"That the labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce. Nothing contained in the anti-trust laws shall be construed to forbid the existence and operation of labor, agricultural or horticultural organizations instituted for the purposes of mutual help and not having capital stock or conducted for profit, or to forbid or restrain individual members of such organizations from lawfully carrying out the legitimate objects thereof, nor shall such organizations or the members thereof be held or construed to be illegal combinations or conspiracies in restraint of trade under the anti-trust laws."

Thus in the short period of American history included in the years 1913 and 1914 there were enacted two of the greatest pieces of labor legislation to be found in our annals—the establishment of the Department of Labor and the acknowledgment by law of the humanitarian concept that "the labor of a human being is not a commodity or article of commerce." It was to be another 20 years before the anti-labor-injunction movement was to succeed but labor's joy in victory over its first two great contests was unbounded.

The first Secretary of Labor, William B. Wilson, held office throughout the presidency of Woodrow Wilson. During the difficult World War period and the years of industrial expansion which followed he amply filled his heavy tasks. He was succeeded on March 5, 1931, by Presi-



Isador Lubin, Commissioner of Labor Statistics. Under His Direction This Office Has Taken On New Significance In the U. S. Department of Labor.

dent Harding's appointee, James J. Davis, a former iron puddler and steel mill worker. Jim Davis remained as Secretary of Labor during the Coolidge administra-

tions and for nearly two years after the inauguration of President Hoover. The Hoover appointee, William N. Doak, had never been popular in labor circles. The American Federation bitterly opposed his selection. But when Secretary Davis resigned his office to become a United States Senator from Pennsylvania, President Hoover, on December 9, 1930, swore in Mr. Doak to fill the vacancy. Secretary Doak remained in office until the advent of the Roosevelt administration in March, 1933, when the helm of the Department of Labor was turned over to a very able and well beloved Secretary, Miss Frances Perkins.

Research Fundamental to Labor

When the new Department of Labor was established in 1913 the old Federal Bureau of Labor was transferred to it and renamed the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. This bureau, now observing its fiftieth anniversary, outdates its parent organization, as we have seen, by about 28 years. Even today it remains the backbone of the department. Its duties according to the law creating it, are to "collect information upon the subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor and the earnings of laboring men and women, and the means of promoting their material, social, intellectual and moral prosperity." Being concerned with all social phases of our

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Courtesy "Labor"

JAMES J. DAVIS
The Second Secretary of Labor.



Courtesy "Labor"

WILLIAM B. WILSON
The First Secretary of Labor
He Came Out of the Ranks of Organized Labor and Was a Close and Intimate Friend of Samuel Gompers. While in Congress, He Aided the A. F. of L. in Introducing the Bill that Created the Department. He Gave It Its Early Shape and Meaning.



Courtesy "Labor"

WILLIAM N. DOAK
The Third Secretary of Labor.

Casey's Chronicles of the Work World

The Saga of William Sims

By SHAPPIE

*"And I, the last, go forth companionless,
And the days darken round me, and the years,
Among new men, strange faces, other minds."
And slowly answered Arthur from the barge:
"The old order changeth, yielding place to new."*

MORT D'ARTHUR.

THE day's work over and dinner disposed of, "Slim" Toban, after various contortions of his features, had successfully accomplished the task of shaving himself. After spluttering and snuffling through a copious ablution of soapy water he finally emerged without leaving any visible traces of the battle. After adding the finishing touches by combing his hair he changed from his working clothes into his glad rags and slippers and then relaxed into an easy chair with the righteous air of one who has faithfully performed all the duties expected of an honest citizen. After filling and lighting his pipe he blew a few rings of smoke in the air and was reflectively watching them fade away when a knock came on the door. "Pass word," he shouted. "I. B. E. W.," was the answer. "Pass word correct. Enter and be assisted to the full extent of my means," called Slim. In response to the invitation the door opened and, with an apologetic air of one who thinks he might be intruding, Bill Sims entered. "Got anything on tonight, Slim?" "Not a thing. You're sure welcome. Doff yer dicer an' take a chair. Here's tobacco so fill up yer pipe an' have a smoke with me." Bill took the proffered pouch, filled his pipe and soon both devotees were busy burning incense at the altar of my Lady Nicotine. "I get pretty lonesome sometimes now," said Bill. "I guess yuh miss yer old pal Casey a lot. Well! we all do. You broke into the wood butcherin' pretty young, didn't yuh, Bill?" "Yeah! I started when I was about seventeen with Mother Bell. That was before cable was much used an' big leads of wires was common in all small towns an' cities but now, like the wind jammers they are nearly all gone an' with them went the work that kept an army of husky linemen busy. Most all them fellers must be dead now an' I only have Terry to remember them by." "How did yuh get yer start, Bill?" "Well, it's a long story, Slim, but if yuh got time an' patience to listen to me I'll tell yuh." "Go ahead! There's nothin' I would like to hear better," said Slim.

This retrospective sketch tells how lines were built in the early days—no cinch either.

Bill Begins His Tale

"I guess yuh think I'm a melancholy cuss at times," said Bill. "I didn't have much to make me happy when I was young. Yuh see I was born on a farm in Devonshire, England, that my father was workin'. I guess we was doin' all right but father took a notion to emigrate to Canada. Mother didn't want to leave all her folks an' go away over-



SHAPPIE ON HIS HORSE

F. Shapland, One of Our Most Faithful Pension Men who Believes that the Leisure Given Him by His Brotherhood Pension Should Return Copy for the Official Journal.

seas to a strange land an' she begged father not to give up the farm, but he wouldn't listen to nobody, so, when I was about two years old, he sold out everything and away we went. What ever possessed him to settle down on that God-forsaken farm in Northern Ontario I could never figure out. The land was stony an' poor an' we had a hard time to make a livin' an' the few neighbors we had were no better off. Many a time I went hungry to bed. Mother never got over bein' homesick, an' sometimes when I was small an' we was all alone, she would take me up on her lap an' tell me all about the old farm house in Devon, with its wide, flagstone floors, big stone fire places, thatched roof an' the walls bright with flowers, where she was brought up. It had been in her family's name over 300 years. An' she would cry an' say, 'an' I left it all to come to this place an' I'll never see the old home again.' I guess I cried sometimes, too, but I would say, 'Just wait, mother, until I grow up big an' I'll earn lots o' money an' we'll go back an' live there always.' Well, to make a long story short we dragged along until I was about 16 an' then father died with the D. T.'s; he'd

taken to drinking a few years before, an' about a week later mother died, too.

Rough Sympathy Given

"The neighbors was very good an' saw to the funeral, an' held a sale of what little furniture an' other things there was, an' there was jus' enough to pay the expenses an' put a couple o' small head stones on the graves. There was nothing left of the farm but a mortgage so I jus' stepped out an' went to work fer a farmer near by fer my board. I was there all one winter gettin' out firewood from the bush an' doin' chores. Early in the spring a telephone outfit set up their camp in a field right across the road from the farm. I was ploughin' in a field alongside. Pretty soon a couple o'men come along settin' stakes an' follerin' them, fellers with diggin' outfits started diggin' holes at these stakes. I stopped the team an' went over to where the nearest feller was diggin' an' asked him what wages they was payin' fer that work. He said \$25 a month with board an' blankets. Gee! that was more money than I ever seen before. I asked him what was the chances o' getting a job. He pointed to a small tent that stood apart from the rest an' said, 'Go over there an' see the boss,' so I did. There was a big, husky man settin' at a table doin' some figgerin'. He looked up at me an' says, 'Well, son, what can I do fer yuh?' I said, 'I'd like to get a job diggin' holes, sir.' He took another look at me an' says, 'Well, son, that work is a full-sized, man's job an' you look to be too young an' not big an' strong enough to handle it.' He seemed like a kind-hearted man so I mustered up courage an' told him a little o' my history. 'Well, son,' he said, 'if that's the case you come to the camp in the mornin' an' wait aroun' till the men has gone out to work an' then the cook'll give yuh a good breakfast. Yuh don't look as if yer boss overfed yuh. Then the straw boss'll start yuh out to work.' Well sir, I was so overjoyed that I was walkin' on air the rest o' the day. I told the farmer that night an' he an' his wife seemed sorry to have me go but he said, 'I hope yuh make out all right Billy, an' you're right welcome to come an' make yer home here any time yer out of a job.' . . . Him an' his wife had been kind to me. They was poor an' never knowed anything but hard work an' nothin' else to look ahead to. The next mornin' I was up bright an' early. They wanted me to stay fer breakfast but I told them that I was to get breakfast at the camp, so I shook hands an' the old man slipped a couple o' dollars in my hand. I guess that was the most money he ever had at any one time. Well,

(Continued on page 312)

Depression Takes Terrific Toll

THE Research Department of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has made the annual analysis of deaths by accidents and occupational diseases in the union. Behind the figures lies the grim and tragic story of the prolonged depression and its impact upon human material. Though 1934 was a year of little employment in the building trades, the figures represent almost 40 per cent increase in that year over 1933. The years since 1922 which show deaths in excess of 1934 were all years of employment, therefore, exposure on the job to hazards.

Occupational deaths jump 1934 figures in Brotherhood ranks to highest point. Other depression years exceeded.

1922				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	23	7	1	31
Falls (fractures, breaks)	9	4	....	13
Burns (explosions, etc.)	4	....	....	4
Miscellaneous (drowning, vehicular)	3	5	3	11
Tuberculosis	9	18	6	33
Pneumonia	3	11	3	17
Total	109			

1923				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	12	10	7	29
Falls, etc.	5	7	....	12
Burns, etc.	3	3	....	6
Miscellaneous	6	11	....	17
Tuberculosis	7	19	5	31
Pneumonia	5	14	1	20
Total	115			

1924				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	29	11	5	45
Falls, etc.	13	11	4	28
Burns, etc.	4	1	1	6
Miscellaneous	2	7	2	11
Tuberculosis	5	22	1	28
Pneumonia	7	23	....	30
Total	148			

1925				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	30	8	2	40
Falls, etc.	12	7	2	21
Burns, etc.	3	....	....	3
Miscellaneous	1	8	....	9
Tuberculosis	9	23	4	36
Pneumonia	4	15	1	20
Total	129			

1926				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	22	8	3	33
Falls	11	9	4	24
Burns	2	....	1	3
Miscellaneous	1	....	1	2
Tuberculosis	6	22	2	30
Pneumonia	9	21	....	30
Total	122			

1927				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	22	5	....	27
Falls	9	11	1	21
Burns	6	2	....	8
Miscellaneous .....	....	1	....	1
Tuberculosis	9	16	4	29
Pneumonia	6	16	....	22
Total	108			

1928				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	24	7	3	34
Falls	11	11	4	26
Burns	1	....	....	1
Tuberculosis	6	23	2	31
Pneumonia	8	22	6	36
Total	128			

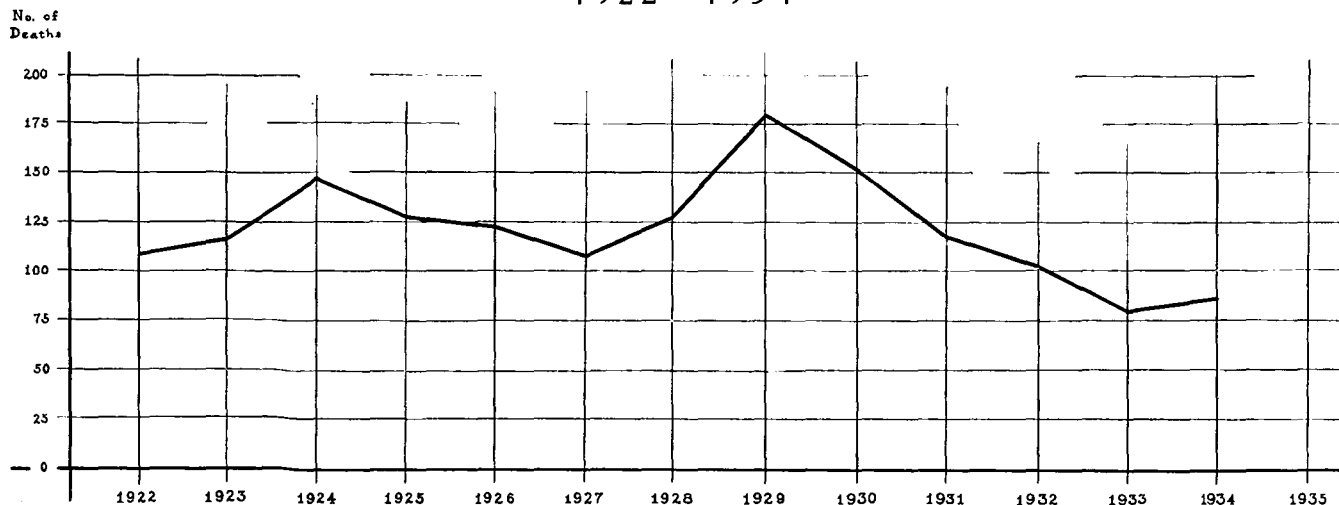
1929				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	26	4	1	31
Falls (fractures, breaks)	15	10	2	27
Burns (explosions) ..	7	1	....	8
Miscellaneous (drowning, vehicular)	5	20	3	28
Tuberculosis	3	28	4	35
Pneumonia	13	37	2	52
Total	181			

1930				
Inside				
Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total	
Electrocution	22	2	2	26
Falls (fractures, breaks)	9	11	....	20
Burns (explosions, etc.)	6	2	....	8

(Continued on page 311)

SHARP UPTURN IN DEATHS DUE TO DEPRESSION

1922—1934



Member Creates New Principle for Airship

By J. E. HORNE, L. U. 18, Los Angeles

HERE is something that should interest each and every one of us who believe in cheap and fast transportation, and last but not least, the absolute security of the U. S. A. against invasion by any hostile country, should the powers that be elect to build 50 of them just half the size of the ill-fated Macon. Before going into details about this I must say that it is the invention of one of Local 18's old-time members, and that is one of the reasons I myself am so interested in it. This worthy Brother (and when I say worthy, I mean just what the word implies) has worked on this constantly since early in 1925. He has it patented in all the major countries with the exception of Japan, China and Russia, and at this writing, his patent attorney is working on those three countries.

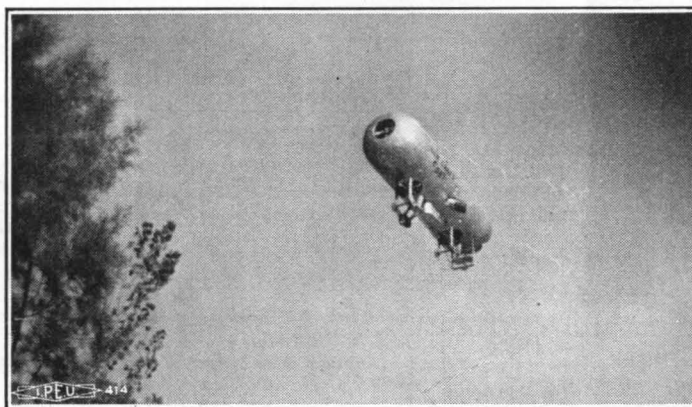
The name of the inventor and member of Local 18 is Thad Rose. He asserts that three revolutionary principles of construction will add greatly to the safety, speed, and economy of his new craft as compared with the conventional type of airships, such as the Graf Zeppelin. First of all, it will be constructed entirely of metal, a cheaper, more rigid and far more durable form than the usual type. "But how about the weight?" object the critical technicians at this point, and here is one of those unbelievable things that Brother Rose is ready to prove with facts and figures at any hour of the day or night. The weight of his aluminum-alloy ship, because of a new method of construction only possible in a craft of this type, will be less than half the weight of the conventional metal-and-fabric ship of the same lifting capacity. The thin metallic skin of the Rose ship will be gas and air-tight, doing away with the hundred or more of heavy balloonets used as gas containers in the present day airships. Heavy ballast will be entirely dispensed with, motive power taking its place as a means of raising, lowering or maintaining the ship at a constant altitude. Girders, ribs and bracings of massive proportions will be replaced by light metallic hoops to form the circumference of the ship, bound with slender piano wires to a central rigid tube extending through the helium filled cylinder from stem to stem. In other words, the interior of the ship will look almost exactly like a dozen or more bicycle wheels strung at intervals along a section of very thin waterpipe.

Bore Holes Into Air

Perhaps he should have said "wind-pipe" instead, for aside from being the backbone of the gas cylinder, this pipe will have another and even more impor-

Now comes Brother Rose with revolutionary conception, which may lead to new era in flying. Fourteen hours between Los Angeles and New York, 100 passengers at three cents a mile.

tant function in the inventor's scheme. It will form a wind tunnel through which air will be forced at tremendous speed by propellers mounted at either end, drawing the air from ahead of the ship and packing it solidly behind. "Instead



Rose's Revolutionary Air Vessel on One of its Trial Flights.

of driving our ship headlong into the atmosphere of ordinary density," says Brother Rose, "we will bore a hole in the air as we go along, through which our sky-liner will slip without any atmospheric resistance whatever. The air ahead of our craft, which ordinarily would resist our effort to drive through it, is literally gobbled up and swallowed, so that we are always sailing into a partial vacuum. In addition, the dense air behind the ship, where the digested atmosphere is ejected with terrific speed, constantly pushes against the blunt stern with powerful force, giving us the added effect which pilots call a spanking tail wind."

Since this principle reverses the usual theory, taking advantage of air pressure rather than battling against it, Brother Rose has deliberately discarded the streamline form of the conventional airship and has designed his craft as a perfect cylinder with comparatively blunt rounded ends. In these days of streamlined trains, streamlined motor cars, it probably seems odd that he has entirely ignored this feature in designing his new styled aircraft, but the streamline form would defeat the very principle which he is using as a motive power. The cigar-like shape of the usual dirigible is designed to part the air outwardly as gently as

possible ahead of the ship, and to draw it inwardly as gently as possible at the stern. His ship exactly reverses this principle, drawing the air inwardly as violently as possible at the nose and thrusting it outwardly astern with the fury of a hurricane. There are positive forces acting at each end, a suction at one end, a pressure at the other, and the blunter these ends are fashioned, the greater will be the surface on which these forces will act. Besides the two motors mounted in the wind tunnel, as many other engines as are needed may be mounted in the usual outboard positions. The designer plans to use four of these, two located fore and aft under the keel, and two others in the wing positions at either side.

This motive power, he asserts, will give his ship a speed of more than 200 miles an hour, carrying 100 passengers at an altitude of 8,000 feet.

Makes Landing Easy

A third revolutionary principle entirely does away with the heavy motor ballast carried by the ordinary dirigible, and banishes the ground crew of hundreds of men necessary to land and handle the conventional airship on the ground. The wind tunnel idea again solves the problem. Two of these tunnels extend vertically through the ship at either end, containing reversible propellers to blow the air in either direction through the tubes with tremendous force, again making use of the vacuum-and-pressure principle. In operation, the craft will contain enough gas to lift the load to any reasonable height and hold it there almost indefinitely. But once in the air, how to get down again without valving out huge quantities of very costly helium gas? The propellers are shifted to the down position, and air is forced through the tubes at hurricane speed. The comparatively heavy atmosphere on which the craft floats is sucked from under it, and down drops the ship through a hole in the air. Nearing the ground, the power is slackened off and the big airliner sinks gently to its small landing field—perhaps the top of a building without the aid of even a one-man ground crew. A simple anchoring device holds it there—or once in the air at an altitude of equalized buoyancy, where the rarefied atmosphere can no longer lift it to a greater height, the propellers are shifted to the up position, and the craft is off to the stratosphere at a mile a minute. "This feature may be put to a very practical use," says Brother Rose. "Suppose, for instance, an electrical storm looms dead ahead. Instead of turning miles out of our course

(Continued on page 311)

International Fair Gets Union Aid

By M. J. RATCLIFF, Business Manager, L. U. No. 569

FOLLOWING the footsteps of the successful Chicago World's Fair, San Diego, speaking in behalf of the entire Pacific Coast, has inaugurated a fair of unusual beauty and lavishness. Following again the precedent set at Chicago, the fair authorities have co-operated nearly 100 per cent with local unions of Southern California, and especially with the local unions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers which have installed some of the most unusual and brilliant lighting effects ever seen on this continent.

San Diego carries lighting art into new realms. Gardens of notable beauty. Entertainment unique.

for several months getting them ready, grooming the exposition grounds, building new structures and displays.

Something new in electrical display is being used in the nocturnal lighting. Instead of a hard glare of white lights, a soft diffusion of color is so cunningly thrown against the exhibit palaces as to accentuate their beauty with an effect like that of skilled stage lighting. Concealed floodlights equipped with color screens have been used to enhance the charm of both buildings and shrubbery at night. Only the amusement zone is brilliantly lighted to suggest the lively gayety it offers.

More than 100 buildings are utilized for the display and all of them are of the characteristic architecture of California and the southwest. The several fine structures that remain from the Panama-California exposition of 1915 are of Spanish Renaissance and Spanish Colonial design. The round arches, flowing colonnades and profuse use of ornamental plaster are typical of these designs.

The new buildings are adaptations of the two oldest and most American schools of architecture, the ancient Mayan and the Indian Pueblo. While these are ornamented in Mayan motifs including animals, birds and serpents, their chief decoration is in the living, blooming flowers and vines which have been set in concealed planting boxes in the building parapets, to trail down in hanging garden effect.

It is almost 400 years since California was first discovered and settled by the Spaniards, and the exposi-

tion features displays representative of the historic past as well as the newest inventions. Under the tall jeweled tower of the Palace of Science, a collection of instruments of ancient Peruvian surgery has its place alongside the most modern marvels.

Natural history is presented both at the Palace of Natural History with its carefully arranged 397,088 specimens of birds, fish, animals, reptiles and plants and at the Zoological Gardens where there are 2,500 living animals, birds and reptiles.

Gardens Win Applause

Although the arts of landscaping and gardening are used everywhere with true California lavishness, there are special garden sections where famous gardens are reproduced faithfully in every detail. One of these is a reproduction of the gardens of the Casa del Rey Moro in Ronda, Spain; and another is of a section of the gardens of the Alcazar in Seville. The Japanese Gardens offer their quaint bridges, stone lamps and mirror-like pools and the California Gardens display native plants, flowers, rock gardens and pools. Tropical growths that are regarded as hot-house plants

(Continued on page 310)

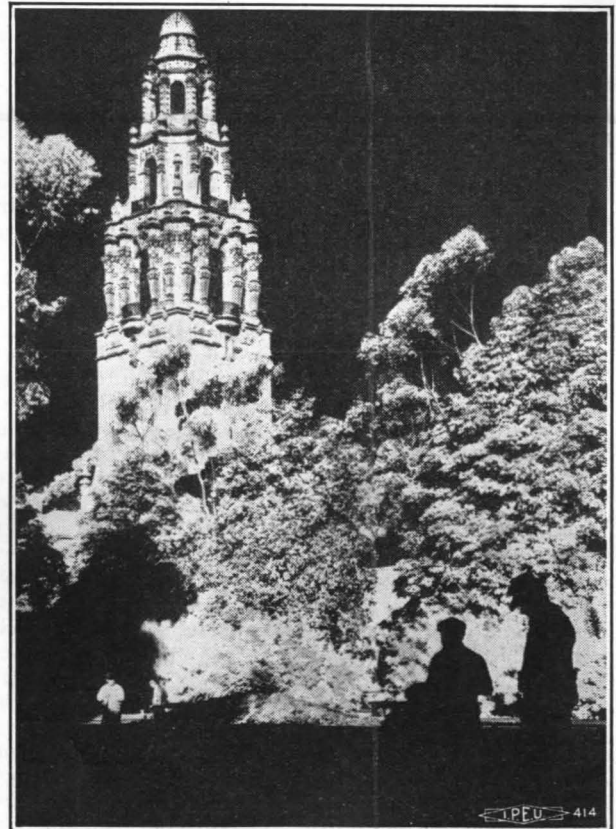


Courtesy California Pacific International Exposition

Florenz Kelton Strums a Cordial Invitation to the World to Visit America's Exposition at San Diego, California.

Expressing the spirit of California and the Pacific Coast in its beautiful buildings of Spanish and Mayan architecture, set among the living verdure of trees and vines, the California Pacific International Exposition opened in San Diego on May 29 as a celebration of four centuries of progress in the West. The exposition grounds occupy 300 acres in famous Balboa Park. The special landscaping around the exposition buildings, and reproductions of Spanish and Japanese gardens are the delight of visitors.

Most of the buildings are of a permanent nature, several having been built 15 years ago for a former exposition and reconditioned for the present fair. Union workmen have been busy



Courtesy California Pacific International Exposition

What, Snow in Southern California? No, Simply a Trick of the Infra Red Plate Which Gives This Wintry Appearance to the California Tower at America's Exposition, San Diego, California.

Nothing to Write About

An IRVIN S. COBB Story

(From FAITH HOPE & CHARITY, by Irvin S. Cobb, copyright 1931, used by special permission of the publisher, The Bobbs-Merrill Company.)

MR. P. J. POLLARD had been the founder and was editor and publisher of the Knox County *Weekly Argus*. He was also advertising solicitor, circulation manager, head bookkeeper, foreman of job printing and presswork, and on occasion extra hand in the composing-room. He was, as without exaggeration you might say, 100 per cent of the news-gathering staff and at least 50 per cent of the man-power in the business office and the mechanical department. So when he began taking on an assistant reporter to help out during the summers, some people said Pollard must be getting old, and some people said Pollard was just getting lazy and pampering himself. But he explained it by saying that what with the tourist traffic picking up the way it had these last few years since they put in these good roads and ran the Transcontinental Highway through town, and what with the town growing so fast, he owed it to his subscribers to put on a smart cub in the busy season.

This summer he had young Emory Schultz. Young Schultz, who was in his last year at Wheatdale High, met the trains and the busses and generally skirmished about hither and yon for news items. Mostly, though, he wrote "personals" and "social jottings." He was filled with the unbridled enthusiasm of one who all through vacation is going to get his six dollars just like finding it, as regularly as Saturday night comes around. Anyhow the pursuit of literature suited him, he being the most forceful writer of compositions in his class.

One good warm afternoon Mr. Pollard gave his new boy what amounted to a definite assignment.

"Son," he said, looking up from the plate matter that had just come from the express office, "on your regular rounds stop by the old G. A. R. Hall up-stairs over Holtzman's shop and get something about that rummage sale or whatever 'tis they're holding over there today. I'd maybe go myself only I've got to be making up these inside pages."

The *Argus* came out on Fridays, and this was a Thursday.

The Schultz boy sharpened two lead pencils and with a fine air of importance stuck a wad of copy paper in his hip pocket.

Usually what he wrote was lumped with "Local Brevities" or "Notes about Folks," but this—if he made good on it—might be worth a special head or something. He went on out to the new automobiles' free camp ground, where he was always sure of a few paragraphs, and on the way back stopped by the button factory and the canning works and several other places. So, with this and

Union men reading this story find an emotional parallel between the experiences of the veterans herein and the veterans in the labor unions.

with that, it was getting along toward five o'clock before he got to G. A. R. Hall.

Once upon a bygone time, the Phil Sheridan Post of Wheatdale had sixty-five names on its muster-rolls, and collectively wielded much power in county politics and civic movements, and took its own fife-and-drum corps when it went anywhere as a uniformed body. Its monthly camp-fires were events of consequence, and its annual reunion at Grogan's Grove, with the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps serving picnic lunch at noon and some inspired orator rearing up to save the Union and free the Slave and crush the Rebellion all over again, was a thing that would be talked about for weeks beforehand and for months afterward.

But now there were left only seven members in good standing, and two of these so feeble as to be chronic invalids—one actually bedfast, the other house-bound. And Holtzman's old two-story frame building, with a beetling mansard brow of slate and a square wooden cupola for its hat, was going to be torn down to make place for the impressive Community Hall erected by popular subscription as a memorial to the World War heroes, with the public library and the volunteer firemen to be established side by side down-stairs, and the American Legion quarters to be above. The commander of the Legion generously had announced that his boys always would be glad to welcome as honored visitors the gallant soldiers of earlier wars, and that when their assembly room was not required for the Legion's own purposes, the G. A. R.'s or the Spanish War Veterans, if any, might meet there absolutely without charge—a thoughtful and a most gracious gesture, everybody said.

But after canvassing the situation, pro and con, the active survivors of the Post figured it out that they might just as well go ahead and disband. All five of them were at the conference—ex-Postmaster Regulus Lounsbury who had never accepted a pension and was otherwise distinguished by a testy temper; former County Judge Timothy Geary; the Rev. S. J. Pettus, pastor emeritus of the Congregational church; Comrade Wolfgang Weinburg, sixty-odd years in the watch-mending trade, out of it now, though; and Comrade Barlow Riggs, auctioneer and valuer by profession, at present retired.

The vote on disbanding having been taken and carried by four to one, another

question came up. It already had been decided that the main furnishings—one presiding officer's table, one eight-day clock in fair condition, one white china pitcher with three tumblers, one mixed assortment of chairs, three cuspidors, one framed steel engraving of General Sheridan (glass broken) should be donated to the county almshouse, but what about the late Post's chiefest treasure, to wit, its museum of trophies and war-time souvenirs? Should they sell it off by public outcry to private collectors and devote the proceeds to some worthy object, such as putting up a statue or at least a marker to commemorate the valor of the soldiers of 1861-65 from Knox County? It always had been a source of regret that Wheatdale lagged behind certain sister towns over the state in this regard. Or should they present the collection as a whole to the state or the nation and throw in the Post colors which had been carried to more than forty national encampments? On both sides it was felt there was much to be said. On both sides much was said, piped cracked voices crossing husky old throaty voices.

Mr. Lounsbury sponsored the argument in favor of a generous bestowal of everything in a lump to the end that it should all be perpetuated for the sake of posterity and patriotism without regard to the aggregate sum of money however large which should be obtained from disposing of it piecemeal. Mr. Lounsbury had his way about it. He generally did have his way about it, in any gathering. Having fathered the successful movement, he volunteered to take up with the state and the federal governments the matter of the proposed gift. If one didn't accept promptly, the other undoubtedly would. So the first to respond would be in luck.

Immediately he wrote to both. But they never heard from the state-house crowd at all, and from Washington a third deputy assistant secretary of the War Department—something or somebody about like that—wrote a not particularly enthusiastic letter tepidly expressing thanks, but saying that owing to lack of facilities for the proper storage and exhibition of the relics, etc., etc.,—a whole pack of excuses. After that there seemed to be nothing to do except to hold the auction sale, especially as the contractor was clamoring for immediate possession of the premises in order that he might put his crew to work at demolishing. So another meeting was held at which four attended, the Reverend Mr. Pettus in the meanwhile having passed to his eternal reward at the age of 87 and it was decided unanimously to go ahead with the sale. The *Argus* kindly agreed to run a free advertisement about it. So Mr. Riggs, as one having prior experience in such matters, prepared copy for the advertisement, giving the dates and the hour, a partial description of the

principal items, and the terms of the bidding and all that; and the *Argus* ran it in one number. But the notice got crowded out of the next two numbers owing to lack of space—the county tax list took up a lot of room those two weeks.

And now three weeks had rolled by, and tomorrow morning bright and early the wreckers would be there, so two o'clock sharp was the hour set for starting the auction.

Right on the dot, Mr. Lounsbury climbed the steep stairs leading up from the street, gripping at the woodwork with one hand, setting his cane firmly on each step below him for a prop while he negotiated the next step, stopping frequently to wheeze for breath and mop his brow. He made as good time as he could, though, being fearful of being late. He was in full regalia, which was warm wear in this weather, and he perspired freely. He had felt it fitting that he should appear in blue and brass buttons.

However, he need not have been in such a hurry. Because nobody else was there yet except Mr. Riggs and Mr. Weinburg. Mr. Weinburg, who was sitting by the window fanning himself with a folded newspaper—it was pretty tolerably sultry and stuffy—told Mr. Lounsbury as soon as the latter entered that Judge Geary probably wouldn't be able to attend, he having had a telephone message from the judge's married granddaughter just before he left his house to the effect that the judge was suffering from a little touch of the sun complicated with a suggestion of summer complaint. Mr. Riggs was creaking busily about, comparing the check-tags on the items with the entries in the catalogue he laboriously had prepared during the past fortnight. Mr. Riggs was enthusiastic over the prospect. He'd brought his old gavel with him. An auctioneer who wasn't constantly enthusiastic would be like a race-horse with its hind legs cut off at the hips. Probably a real auctioneer never does get over being enthusiastic. Mr. Lounsbury sat down with Mr. Weinburg.

"Funny nobody but us is here yet," he said fretfully. His uniform coat was like a sweat-bag on him.

"Sizzlin' July day like this, you couldn't expect people to get down-town so soon after dinner," said Mr. Weinburg soothingly. "There ought to be a crowd pilin' in pretty soon, though."

"You betcher!" said Mr. Riggs. "And probably quite some folks from a distance. This here thing is a thing that's bound to git talked about all over."

He resumed reading aloud his descriptions of various articles, with scraps of comment thrown in. An extract from his commentaries would run like this:

"Lot 7: Sabre, pair of stirrup-irons and boots worn by late Colonel Simon Goddard, Third Iowa Volunteer Cavalry . . . I didn't put it in about his service coat and pants, seein' ez how the pesky moths got into 'em and purty well et 'em up; thought I'd throw 'em in fur good measure to who ever the rest of the



Wide World Photo

Through Eyes Filled with Memories, These Veterans Look Out Over a Retrospect Full of Meaning Which Youth Does Not Suspect or See.

Goddard stuff wuz knocked down to; feller's got to use his own judgment in sich matters. . . .

"Number 18: Rebel battery pennon picked up at Chickamauga. . . . Don't run on somethin' like that ever' day. Oughter be worth considerable to somebody, you betcher! . . .

"Number 19: Canteen taken off of prisoner at Stone Mountain."

"Number 23: Drum used through Entire War by Elijah Hains, drummer-boy, Company B Eighth Nebraska Infantry; complete with drum-sticks. . . . And that's another one that's worth havin', too; you boys jest watch me shove the biddin' up on that there one. . . .

"Number 28: Pack of playing cards carried by Thomas J. Reilly of this Post, showing mark of rebel bullet fired at Fort Henry. . . .

"Remember, boys, how Brother Pettus, all the time he wuz chaplain, couldn't never git over the fact that instid of a Holy Bible it wuz a pack of these here devil's playthings in Tom Reilly's breast pocket that saved Tom's life fur him that time?"

Two-thirty came. From the paved street below the ardent grain belt sunshine sent up heat waves, and automobiles in increasing numbers passed hootingly under the open windows of the little hall, and some of these automobiles halted near by, but nobody climbed the stairs where the three octogenarians watchfully waited.

Three o'clock came, the minutes dragging. A little uneasy, unhappy silence had fallen on all three of them, even Mr. Riggs being silent, and the ticking of the eight-day clock seemed so loud that almost it suggested clods falling on a coffin.

Three-fifteen, three-thirty, three-forty-five. Old memories like disembodied spirits might be whispering their disappointments among themselves in the far corners, but for ever so long nobody, neither the quick nor the dead, had spoken out.

Mr. Riggs got up finally—it was nearly four o'clock then—clearing his throat in a series of embarrassed hums. "Feel-in' kind of thirsty," he said. For no apparent reason he said it apologetically. "Reckin' 'twouldn't be no harm ef I slipped down to Watson's a minute fur a cold glass of sody."

"Wait, Cumrud Riggs, I believe I'll jine you," said Mr. Weinburg with a sort of shamefaced eagerness. He looked guiltily at Mr. Lounsbury. Almost angrily and certainly with a dumb defiance the latter shook his head.

So Mr. Riggs and Mr. Weinburg went along.

"We'll be back right off," said Mr. Weinburg from the hall doorway.

But Mr. Lounsbury knew it was all a big lie. He knew they wouldn't be back. He knew they were surrendering—leaving him to hold the fort with only a battalion of dusty ghosts to back him up.

Four-thirty, and then somebody else did come to the auction. Footsteps, upward-bound, sounded on the decrepit stair treads, and on the threshold appeared Mr. I. Krauskoff, dealer in second-hand goods.

"Vell," he said genially, "all soldt oudt, huh? Or mebbe got somethings left, huh?"

Mr. Lounsbury, eying him sourly, made no answer whatsoever.

Unabashed by the lack of a welcome, Mr. Krauskoff advanced oozily across the

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JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Official Publication International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Devoted
to the
Cause



of
Organized
Labor

Volume XXXIV Washington, D. C., July, 1935 No. 7

Labor Fills the Breach As the International Labour Conference ends its sessions at Geneva with American labor participating for the first time, we may call attention again to two very definite and contrasting points of view in regard to the destiny of America. These points of view are being urged insistently by varying groups with degrees of sincerity, and as Secretary Wallace, U. S. Agriculture Department, has forcibly pointed out, America must choose.

The decision turns upon two questions: First, shall America continue a policy of international competition; or, shall America turn to a strong domestic policy and let commercial warfare with other nations alone?

In a monumental book entitled "The Open Door At Home," Charles A. Beard has made a plea for the forsaking of the old policy of international competition and the formulation of the new:

"If American foreign trade were limited principally to the import of commodities necessary to the maintenance of a determined standard of life and to the export of commodities of which there is a genuine surplus, then the pressure of the United States in the world market would be relaxed and America would be viewed as a benefactor, rather than a belligerent competitor. Americans would be attending to their own business in most matters, serving as benefactors in others, and acting as competitors in none. Such a state of affairs would do more for peaceful relations with foreign countries than all the formulas of peace which could be devised, accompanied by increasing bitterness of trade rivalry."

This counsel will recommend itself to thinking Americans as a counsel of wisdom. Professor Beard at other times and places repeatedly has pointed out that there are only two ways out of the present depression, either the redistribution of income at home, or war and Fascism. Since international commercial competition is a form of warfare and inevitably culminates in actual warfare, the policy of domestic rehabilitation seems the more social course.

On the other hand, all of us know that nations are interdependent. We are aware that the United States with all its boasted self-sufficiency must of necessity import many articles

needed in basic fabrication and manufacturing. Other nations are in the same position. We know that the world is a much smaller world than it was even 10 years ago. Aeroplanes are getting ready to bring Asia within 72 hours of San Francisco. Radio and express liners have broken down barriers that used to seem insurmountable. With these physical facts before us a policy of isolation seems unwise and impossible. How then can we follow the suggestion of Professor Beard, and still live in a world as closely united physically as our world is? The answer is we can do it through the pursuits of peace and we have an example of the pursuits of peace in the International Labour Conference just closing at Geneva.

Here sat representatives of 40 nations. They deliberated calmly and amicably for three weeks on questions of social justice. They were trying to forge a little more firmly the ties that bind nations rather than to juggle interests in order to win this or that advantage over each other. This is significant and it may well be that the entrance of the United States into the International Labour Organization this year marks a new era in American foreign and domestic policy. We hope so.

Things that Leave Us Cold

A millionaire publisher who will not have collective bargaining relations with his reporters and constantly spouts about freedom and liberty leaves us cold.

A head of a large utility who draws a salary of \$75,000 a year and wails because the government is seeking to find effective means to stop holding company practices, on the ground that the government is destroying a great industry, leaves us cold.

The banker who has had five years in which to start financing failing businesses and now repeatedly and publicly cries out that if the government would remove itself from the scene prosperity would be just around the corner, leaves us cold.

The judge who prates continually about loyalty to the constitution and respect for law and at the same time declares an act of Congress unconstitutional on some legal technicality leaves us cold.

The \$25.00 a week white-collar worker who defends Andy Mellon and the other gentlemen of easy virtue leaves us cold.

Idealism in Movement

Labor leaders are usually men of action. If they acquire habits of reflection their job with the workaday events of the world press so forcibly in upon them that they do not have much time for writing. Significant, therefore, it is that Joseph Schlossberg, general secretary of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, has written a book which he calls "The Workers and Their World." The book is published by the Amalgamated Local Publication Committee, an offshoot of the clothing workers' union. Mr. Schlossberg is 60 years old, and has been continuously, as a member and official, in the labor movement for 45 years. The tone and scope and drive of this book is indicated by this statement chosen by the publishers:

"* * * Unions are said to become more practical and less idealistic as they grow in power. Moral: in order to achieve results, unions must be practical, not idealistic. But

labor movement history is not made that way. What happens when a union is engaged in a battle? Does it not appeal to the workers' solidarity, to their sense of labor movement loyalty, to their spirit of self-sacrifice? That is idealism, not 'practicalism.' A popular movement cannot achieve practical results without the driving force of idealism."

This appears to be not only a good advertisement for the book but sound sense. There is more real idealism in the labor movement than in any other group movement in the world, except perhaps the church. Labor people do not like to talk in terms of or about idealism. They are like soldiers in front line trenches. They hide the central fire that keeps them going behind banter, hard words, and realistic analysis.

What Kind of Shelter? There are a number of civic organizations who believe that the question of low-cost housing is a public question of vital importance, touched with humanitarian and moral significance. To let millions of American families live in slums, hovels and squalor creates bad citizens, but it does more. It makes other sections of the population subject to disease and crime which emanate from these centers. These civic organizations are trying to educate the public and the public's representatives in Congress to an appreciation of this problem.

Commercial corporations interested in marketing mechanical houses, as yet untested in merit as shelter and dwelling, are striving to get these civic organizations to endorse their prefabricated structures. In short, being unable to sell these manufactured domiciles directly to the people, they hope to sell them to government-sponsored agencies that will foist them on the people. It is to be hoped that the civic organizations and the government agencies will resist the blandishments of these commercial groups and refuse outright to support any such proposals.

Telephone Company Tactics A telephone worker writes the following to the ELECTRICAL WORKERS JOURNAL:

"The New York area of the Western Electric Co. is situated at 395 Hudson Street, 9th Floor, New York City. It takes care of the installation of all telephone exchanges in the metropolitan area, as far north as Albany, and it also provides all the modifications on all telephone equipment. The western branch takes care of the Pacific Telephone Co., and different branches take care of different telephone companies throughout the country—all under the hand of the big papa (A. T. & T. Co.). Now A. T. & T. never needed any money. They have a sinking fund, made in good days. WHY DOES NOT THE LAW COMPEL THEM TO SPEND IT WHEN TIMES ARE BAD? Was not that its purpose? Is this the beginning of the bitter end? However, here is my story:

"On April 26, May 3, and May 9, there were layoffs of men who were in their employ for periods of 15 years and longer, with the statement that this was due to LACK OF WORK. For one who knows—this is a huge joke. Why they have cancelled more jobs in the New York area than you can shake a stick at, and without a doubt their reason is POLITICS. It does not seem to faze them that while they are playing their petty

politics that women and children are dying of hunger, or that everybody is turning communistic, seeing the desperate straits these families are compelled to face. In one telephone exchange (Jerome Exchange at 167th Street & Grand Concourse, New York City) I personally know that there is work there that should be done at the present time that would keep these men busy for quite sometime, but according to the telephone company it is not allowed to let the laid-off men do it. Oh no! Papa A. T. & T. says, 'No, we want to play politics—never mind who suffers—but we will keep on paying the \$9.00 dividend even though lay offs are necessary (as they say) for lack of work.'"

Less to Share Labor understands that it never does any good to close eyes to facts. While business men are confident that recovery is close at hand, it is well to survey, for the moment, the extent of national income during 1933 and 1934. The National Industrial Conference Board, an employers' research organization, reports that in 1933 the national income was \$41,000,000,000 and in 1934 \$47,000,000,000. These figures are a little more than half of the \$83,000,000,000 which the United States was supposed to have produced in good years. But look at per capita income. That is what the working man is interested in. In 1929 it was \$683; in 1934 it was \$377; while in 1932 it was only \$315. Wholesale prices increased 13.7 per cent in 1934 over 1933. The cost of living rose 6.1 per cent.

Exit the Dismal Science There was a time when economics was described as the dismal science. Dismal it was, partially because men had not yet watched the workings of the economic system with enough perspicacity to measure recurrent happenings. Dismal, not fundamentally, but because economics represented the effort of a class to prove its right to a larger share of the national income than any other group. One very great characteristic of the present hour of our national development is that a good many books are being written that make economics a clear, lucid area of human endeavor, and when this sunlight floods the scene it has suddenly seemed to be not only interesting but even fascinating.

Harper & Brothers has just published a book which we believe is destined to have a wide circulation in the United States and destined to have a profound influence on all our lives. This book is called "*Rich Man and Poor Man*," and is made up of a series of graphic charts depicting the inequalities of wealth and income in the United States and other maladjustments in the economic system. A cool, lucid discussion accompanies these charts. A child could read this primer of economics and enjoy it. What a child can read and enjoy an adult can read and enjoy. The sponsor for this volume is the People's League for Economic Security and it is edited by Stuart Chase, H. A. Overstreet and Harry Pratt Fairchild.

The extent with which the new technology has taken hold of the imaginations of the American people is indicated by the fact that the *Autobiography of a Machine*, by Mildred Hicks—a brief summary of the effect of machinery on human life—has had a wide circulation in the South.



WOMAN'S WORK



EMBATTLED HOUSEWIVES DEMAND LOWER FOOD PRICES

By A WORKER'S WIFE

A STRIKE is a drastic remedy for a situation that can no longer be tolerated. It is a public demonstration that the end of patience has been reached. At present there is no other strike that is compelling such nationwide attention as one which is not an organized labor strike at all, but a strike of consumers—the housewives—against high meat prices.

Ordinarily shy and timid creatures, housewives in several cities are now forming groups and engaging in militant action that is causing considerable embarrassment not only to meat dealers, but to packing houses and right on up to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, whose crop reduction program is at least partly accountable for the scarcity.

Last month a committee of women called on Secretary of Agriculture Henry Wallace, who was out of town, were received by Dr. Calvin B. Hoover, Consumers Counsel for the AAA, bowled him over with the department's own statistics, and retired triumphant.

In Allentown, Pa., hundreds of women picketing that city's packing houses in a demonstration against high meat prices, almost mobbed a detachment of police sent out to stop them. The chief of police was forced to permit the mass picketing. Similar picket lines were formed at Bethlehem and other nearby cities. In large cities such as New York and Chicago there is a housewives' boycott on meat products and organized picketing of stores.

In addition to that embarrassing visit from the women's committee, the Department of Agriculture is being deluged with written protests and threats of a buyers' strike. Administrator C. C. Davis reported to Secretary Wallace that beef and pork prices would be higher this year than last. Senator Ellison D. Smith, chairman of the Senate agricultural committee, is quoted as saying, "Prices will continue to rise unless the consumers buck up their sales resistance through a consumers' strike or their inability to buy meat."

The consumers' strike made the front page of the Wall Street Journal when in June it was blamed for a drop in the wholesale price of fresh meat in Chicago of as much as \$2 per hundredweight on pork and \$1 per hundredweight on beef. The report states: "Perceptible to only a moderate extent some months ago, consumer resistance to advancing food prices has continued to gather momentum until currently it is being reported

from practically every important center of the country. * * * The stop-buying movement has been especially distressing to the large grocery and meat chains and is having an unfavorable effect on their earnings."

Socialized Milk?

We pick up the "New Leader," a Socialist newspaper of New York City, and find that Esther Friedman, leading a group of Socialist women, went to Mayor LaGuardia and asked him to put the city into the milk business for the benefit of producers and consumers; and we find an up-state dairy farmer writing to the paper saying, "Maybe those dumb city women can teach us farmers something. Milk can be sold in New York City for eight cents a quart, and the farmer can receive five cents a quart, no matter what is done with it." He cites the wastes in the distribution system, the many trucks "running around like chickens with their heads cut off," the company organizations, salaries and profits. He says:

"There is only one way to help the dairymen of the New York milk shed, and that is the way suggested by—of all people—Esther Friedman and those ignorant city women. It is to socialize the milk market. In spite of the depression this would bring to these farmers such prosperity as they never dreamed of."

Another element in the ferment of rebellion was injected by frank statements of eminent doctors and scientists at the recent meeting of the American Medical Association. One authority declared that the cheap diet of those on relief or at a low wage level is necessarily too high in starches and lacking in the higher priced protein foods such as meat, and in the vitamins provided by fresh vegetables. The badly balanced diet, he declared, would result in incapacitating many so that they would become unemployable.

Dr. James S. McLester, new president of the association, said in his inaugural address that the health, length of life, stature and even capacity for culture of human beings is profoundly influenced by their diet; and he estimated that something like 20,000,000 American people are living near or below the level of "nutritive safety." This condition if continued, he believes, will surely affect the health of the race, and urged government participation in insuring adequate diet to its citizens.

Who Holds Prices Up?

I don't think that we should be too harsh in our judgment of the Department of Agriculture. Two years ago food prices were so low that the farmer sometimes did not get enough out of it to pay the cost of getting his product to market. The crop curtailment program was planned to keep the farmers from utter bankruptcy. It was most unfortunate that the drought stepped in, widespread and prolonged, and put on a crop curtailment program of its own that went far beyond anything Mr. Wallace had contemplated.

Last fall the department honestly admitted that things had gone wrong. Issuing a special publication, the Consumers' Guide, with detailed information on rising food prices, they advised consumers to "yell their heads off" and to send their complaints to the Consumers' Counsel at Washington. Evidently their advice was followed.

The housewives' strike is socially valuable because it focusses public attention on a terribly important problem. We have had a tough time. We have had to stretch pennies, ignore other needs, scrape, contrive and pinch in order to provide food for our families. And I think that in the last few years most women have received, in one way or another, if only from reading the newspapers and women's magazines, a better idea of what foods are necessary to health. We have learned that babies must have not only milk but orange juice or tomato juice; that every child must have a pint of milk a day and enough vegetables and fruit; that even adults must have certain protective foods if they are not to fall prey to pellagra and other diseases caused by poor nutrition. We know that the person whose diet consists mainly of bread, cereals, white potatoes and other starchy foods is not properly fed and that his body cannot maintain its energy and health. The starchy foods generally are cheap and filling, but we have to put into the diet also the more expensive meat, milk, butter and cheese, as well as the fresh vegetables and fruit, which may not have risen in price but which do account for a considerable part of the grocery bill.

Germany during the war suffered from a lack of food, particularly dairy products. She learned that people cannot keep healthy on cabbage soup, turnips and potatoes. People died like

(Continued on page 307)

Women's Auxiliary

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY, L. U. NO. 2, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Editor:

Looking through the May JOURNAL of the I. B. E. W., I read with interest your call for an auxiliary rally. Local No. 2 organized last fall, but as yet we are only an infant organization, however, we are at the sit up and take notice age, and are growing fast. We have now 25 paid up members. A larger number joined but owing to unemployment, etc., dropped out. As work has resumed we might be able to induce them to again join our ranks.

We have a number of surprises planned for the summer, basket picnic, weenie roast, and a lot of things. Some members think the women would like to join but their husbands do not approve. Surely this is not the truth, as the men of Local No. 2 are too broadminded to deprive their wives of an evening's pleasure. We extend an invitation to every wife and daughter of Local No. 2 to join.

Last Saturday, June 22, I had the great pleasure of being a guest at the convention banquet of the National Federation of Trade Union Auxiliaries held at the Jefferson Hotel, St. Louis, and to my great surprise there was not a member of an electrical workers auxiliary present as a delegate, although there are a number of auxiliaries affiliated. Mrs. Mary Rider of St. Louis was elected president and in the evening she entertained all the delegates and friends on the roof garden at her home. The convention elected nine vice presidents and St. Louis has the honor of two. They intend to do some organizing within the next two years and to visit all local auxiliaries as they want a representative of every craft in every city and state at the next convention, which will be held in Cincinnati in 1937. Now, members of the electrical workers auxiliaries, let's all get to work, join the National Federation and get in the swim in 1937.

There are big things to be accomplished in auxiliary work. Let us hear from you. What are you doing?

We meet at Hiberian Hall on the 2nd and 4th Friday at 8 o'clock, however, at the last meeting we decided to meet only once a month, evening to be announced later.

Next writing I will try to condense my news, if you will allow me space, but I am at the mercy of the editor for this missive.

M. L. READY.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY L. U. NO. 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Editor:

It was most gratifying to read the interesting letters last month. The officers and members of the various auxiliaries deserve much credit for keeping their organizations alive and active during these trying times.

I cannot but wonder why there aren't more auxiliaries. When one reads the many letters from locals that question pops up—"Why not more auxiliaries?"

Are the Brothers unaware of the value of an auxiliary? We women are the best advertisers of "buy union-label merchandise." The woman is the official shopper of the family and it is necessary that she be educated in the importance of insisting on the union label. Through auxiliaries we can teach our women to use this purchasing power to promote the cause of unionism.

When we speak of "educating the worker"

(Continued on page 307)

WOMEN PICKETS FOCUS ATTENTION

Wives and other women relatives of Local No. 3 members are doing their part to aid the local in its fight against unfair speculative builders by going right out on the picket line. Wearing a tunic-effect sign that informs the reader that "The electrical work on this job is unfair to Local No. 3, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers," the feminine delegations are a regular part of the campaign and are said to be most effective in persuading prospective buyers to stay away from the houses being picketed.



Enlisting the help of the women in this way certainly shows sound reasoning on the part of Local No. 3's campaign managers. A nice looking, neatly dressed woman picket always attracts more attention than a man similarly engaged; and to the prospective woman buyer she can present the story in a way that is polite but very effective.

While we know of many instances in which the loyal women relatives of I. B. E. W. members have been of great assistance during strikes in raising funds, commissary work, and even on the picket line, this is the first time we have heard that an electrical workers' local has availed itself of the help of the women in a regular campaign of this sort. We're

happy to have the story and pictures for the Women's Work page and will be glad to hear of other instances. The following letter from Walter J. Drechsler and Charles De Latron, captains of the Queens County pickets, explains the situation;

WOMAN'S WORK,
ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL
Editor:

I don't know whether this comes under the heading of Women's Auxiliary or not, but at any rate it is women's news. I am enclosing two pictures to show what our wives do for us, so that we can better our working conditions and wages.

We are having quite an experience convincing our builders and our neighbors that it is to their best advantage to hire only union mechanics affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

We are trying to prove that by hiring us, they are getting a better job, and a guarantee that the work is perfect. Also, that by paying the standard wages, they are keeping up the march toward better times.

Some of these builders are importing cheap outside labor for as low as \$3 per day. Our scale is \$11.20 per day and no one man can work more than three days a week except the foremen.

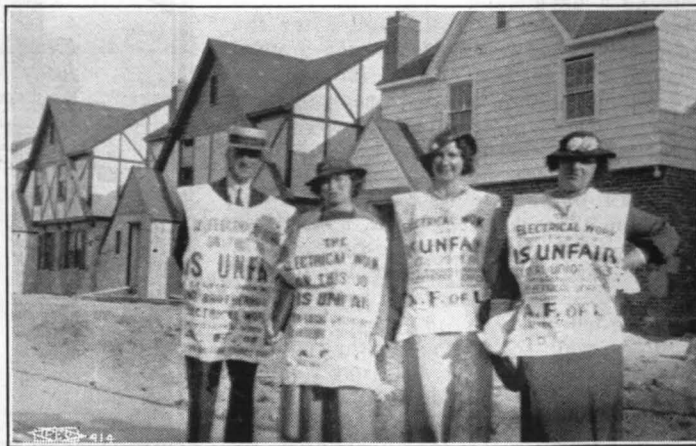
When the women heard about us picketing they volunteered their help, first by assisting us in our clerical work and later by picketing. Just between us, if all of our Brothers would picket as consistently as these women and show as much enthusiasm, in no time at all we would be able to discontinue our picketing. The builders do not like the idea of women pickets at all.

One of them remarked, "My God, first men and now women!" Fred Hansen, our county delegate, answered, "Yes, and next we will send baby carriages."

They make a wonderful picture marching up and down in front of the model houses. They all have a real business-like appearance and are not hard to look at, either. Can you picture a prospective buyer going in to buy a house and passing these pickets? Why he'd be so flustered that he'd go in and most likely call the builder down for letting this condition exist.

In reference to these builders, we want to report progress. They are beginning to realize that a union man is the best man to hire.

WALTER J. DRECHSLER,
CHARLES DE LATRON,
Captains of Queens' County Pickets,
Local Union No. 3, New York City.



Bulletin of the I. B. E. W. Radio Division

ATLANTA RADIO OPERATORS WIN WITHOUT NRA

By J. V. FITZHUGH

THE Supreme Court decision which defeated the NRA was a signal for action to the members of Local Union No. 647 in Atlanta, Ga. This little group of radio operators started in the fall of 1934 to bargain with their employers for a working agreement. They were laughed at by their managers; and it then became necessary to begin the tedious process of forcing action through the peaceful channels of the NRA. As usual, the radio men acted like gentlemen, even though they received a mighty raw decision from the Atlanta regional labor board, and calmly appealed to the National Labor Relations Board of the NRA in Washington. Here the decision was in favor of the I. B. E. W.

The station in question was WGST, a unit of the Columbia Broadcasting System. The management of this station repeatedly delayed in meeting with representatives of the radio operators for the purpose of concluding a working agreement. Such delays, to the operators, began to take on more and more the complexion of a deliberate stall. As the probable date for the NRA decision arrived, the operators became firmer in their belief that now the management was seeking a loophole through which it might void all NRA activities which it had been required to follow.

Certain sections of the working agreement which was being negotiated under the NRA were very objectionable to the technicians, although these provisions were in keeping with the very broad interpretations of the NRA by its officials. Perhaps the men might have had to sign such a weakened agreement, if the NRA proceedings were followed to their conclusion; but the decision of the Supreme Court changed the whole picture.

Getting back to fundamentals, and realizing that their only hope without NRA was through their own economic strength as a solid union, the Atlanta technicians put on full speed after the decision in their efforts to get a good working agreement. J. V. Fitzhugh represented the men, and with the excellent co-operation of local members, made swift and thorough contacts with station executives. In one conference, practically all objectionable features of the agreement were weeded out, and within less than 12 hours from the time of that conference, the agreement in a form which was satisfactory to both parties was signed.

It is well to remember that station WGST is a 1,000-watt, full time regional station whose NRA code minimum salary for technicians was \$30 per week for 48 hours. Furthermore, the question of di-

Three days after NRA knock-out, IBEW radio men show way to recovery is through their own united efforts—not NRA.

vision of responsibilities of the man who supervised studio control equipment, and the man who handled the transmitting apparatus, was not clear. There also existed a differential set-up in salaries which was inequitable. Payment for overtime was not clearly defined; and vacation periods were not provided for. Extra pay for major construction jobs was not understood by the management. The hiring and firing of technicians was in no way stabilized. Arbitration of grievances was almost unknown.

Under the signed contract, the following are the outstanding benefits which the technicians receive:

1. Increased payroll:

The new scale provides for separate chief engineers for the transmitter and control equipment, each of whom receive \$45 per week, and whose operating hours may not be more than 48 per week. Other technicians receive \$35 per week for 48 hours, and time and one-half for all overtime work.

2. One week's vacation with full pay.

3. Arbitration of grievances — no strikes.

4. Time and one-half pay for overtime.
5. Additional pay for transportation expenses on remote-control broadcasts.
6. Additional pay for major construction work.

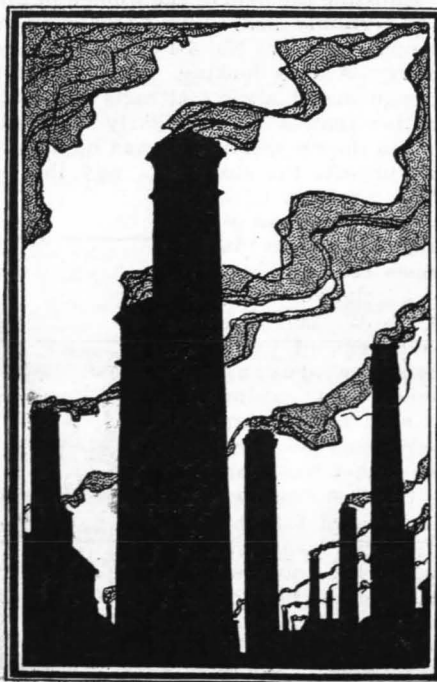
7. Seniority recognition in case of lay-off or re-employment of technicians.

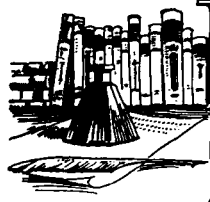
8. Provision for opening arbitration on any clause of the agreement, including wages, on 30 days' written notice.

Since the NRA has faded out, it is well for radio broadcast technicians to waste no time in organizing in a strong labor union, in order that any move to cut down the scale of wages, or boost the hours of work, may be checked most positively. Undisputed statistics prove that the radio broadcasting industry is well able to pay even more than the NRA minima, but now there are no regional labor boards, and no compliance boards or code authorities upon which we so confidently relied for our working benefits; and if the movement in working standards is not soon downward, it will be a miracle, after the National Association of Broadcasters (the employers' union) tried in every possible way to set the wage scale at \$12, \$15, and \$20 per week in the NRA code.

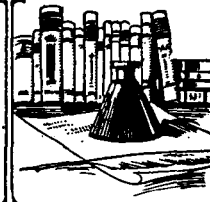
Technicians are making a fatal mistake by continuing to dream of rich rewards in radio entirely from high technical merit. There are many highly skilled technicians today who, if they are employed at all, are by no means receiving what their ability deserves. One reason for this situation is that industry is not expanding; therefore, there is little or no promotion of technicians for technical skill or any other reason. The main reason, however, is that so many technicians refuse to take a broad outlook on the radio broadcasting industry, and thereby see how the treasuries of the executives are being filled with money which they, the technicians, produce.

It is high time that radio operators get over the senseless prejudice against associating with other organized working people. Radio operators in their own minds may believe that they are professional men, but their managers look upon them as mere routine employees whose services are worth so much money per week. When—and only when—the radio operators conceive of themselves as being definitely a part of the whole labor movement will they advance more truly to that position of skilled workers which sometimes is called "professional." The I. B. E. W. offers that opportunity to radio operators; and with the governmental system upset as it is, there never was a more ripe time for complete organization.





CORRESPONDENCE



L. U. NO. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO.

(No. 7 of a series of articles written by the press secretary of Local No. 1, St. Louis.)

Editor:

Influences One Way or Another of the NRA

We can now give blood transfusions to a corpse with five billions just appropriated for public works and relief. Whether you liked the NRA or not, you will wish that old bird was sitting on cogwheels and lightning from now on. What will the outcome be? It's a pity the plan fell through. It's too bad that the Supreme Court was asleep so long. Maybe this rash change in plans will awaken some brilliant minds, if there are any left, to find ways and means to benefit by our huge resources and capabilities. As has been said many times—we must plan for abundance, instead of suffering under scarcity.

The Land of Opportunity

The land of opportunity? Yes, opportunity to starve, chisel, cheat, and slave for the few who are piling up large fortunes while you sweat blood. Foreigners have always looked up to America as the promised land and now America can look to other nations as lands of opportunity. Too much legislation and not enough action. And that means action concerning every individual's constitutional rights.

Since the NRA has been declared unconstitutional you will now have the opportunity to prepare yourselves to lose the improved wages and working conditions that were brought about by the codes. Child labor can't help but flourish again. The same with old cut-throat competition, price wars and chaotic business conditions in general.

Business Now Challenged

Without a doubt standards have been raised since the adoption of the NRA and the only thing we can look forward to is that employers will keep the NRA in mind and continue to practice what that bird was squawking about. But, who in the h— is going to make them do it? There are many enlightened business men in this country today who wholeheartedly would agree with these views, but I don't think it would be the majority. A wholesale wave of wage-cutting at this time would be a disastrous deflation and certainly create greater unemployment.

Something Can Be Done

Henry Ford did not sign up with the NRA but went it one better. Last month Mr. Ford restored the \$6 a day level. February, 1934, he said, "It is a losing proposition trying to run a business on low wages," when he raised the daily minimum to \$5 from the low depression \$4. "Pay men what they earn," he added, "and you can expect them to use their heads."

A year later, he wrote: "I do not believe production costs are ever really increased by reducing wages, but I have known

READ

Labor, NRA and the Supreme Court, by L. U. No. 648, 642, 349, 526.

What makes union progress? by L. U. No. 459.

Massachusetts drafts safety legislation, by L. U. No. 326.

"No card, no work," in L. U. No. 568.

A day of victory in Minneapolis, by L. U. No. 292.

Correct the causes to eliminate Communism, by L. U. No. 440.

Shop organization on the Canadian National, by L. U. No. 561.

Remote control in industry, by L. U. No. 723.

Resurrection of a local, by L. U. No. 102.

A foothold in rubber town, by L. U. No. 306.

—and a score of other lively, two-fisted letters showing the trend of labor's thought.

higher wages usually to bring lower costs. Unless the worker in American industry is enabled to use and enjoy the products of industry, the natural balance cannot be maintained. Our only market is our people."

And somebody asked me if I was a radical when I said: "The system is all wrong; you work all week to get paid on Friday—you should be paid all week to work on Friday." No—I have a sense of humor and can't help it, but, in all seriousness, it is high time that all international officers in the labor movement today should come out of their holes and use the brains that we, the privates of the labor movement, think they have and give this administration in power some good sound ideas and help. Union labor today can be the pioneers of a new nation if they would only care to pioneer.

Opportunity is just around the corner—Napoleon, old boy, would say—"Opportunity? I'll make opportunity."

So much for that!

M. A. "MORRY" NEWMAN,
A Lover of "Light" Work.

L. U. NO. 65, BUTTE, MONT.

Editor:

Time for a few lines to our JOURNAL. At present all organized men in Butte are formulating agreements to present to the mining interests of our jurisdiction, and we're sure getting acquainted, through the mail, with all that are interested in our affairs (and theirs), the A. F. of L. and all of the branches thereof, and also from the I. B. E. W. There has been a mining council set up here, and it looks as though the above-mentioned organizations are viewing it with alarm.

We have had our election and all seem to be satisfied with the new set-up. All of them are in line to be called the old timers

of our jurisdiction. Brother Carl Smith, of Local No. 65, is our newly appointed city electrician, and if his pep keeps up, and the city fathers will furnish a little money, he intends to do much more than has been done here for a number of years.

Working in this District are no new faces, so it is easy to see there is not much doing.

Prospects are looking worse in the mining end of the game. Some men have recently been laid off.

I will try to get some authentic data on Locals No. 200 and No. 122 regarding a new agreement.

H. G. Hilse, of Local No. 7, the JOURNAL is the place to put facts before the rank and file. That news, if it is the truth, is important to all I. B. E. W. members. No one can have their letters printed in the JOURNAL unless he is press secretary. They will send the letters back and tell you that you are not authorized by your Local Union. I have no axe to grind, I want honest, organized dealings from men representing my interests.

I think I will have plenty of news for you next month.

R. G. WHITEHEAD.

L. U. NO. 66, HOUSTON, TEXAS

Editor:

Local Union No. 66 has just gone through its regular election of officers and the following Brothers were elected by a large majority, to serve this local union for a two year term: President, M. O. Maxwell; vice president, R. M. Raney; recording secretary, O. A. Nelson; financial secretary, J. H. Shipp; treasurer, W. R. Kirkhart; business manager, A. J. Bannon; executive board, R. W. Turner, J. O. Robinson, W. H. Exline, C. A. Koch, D. L. McCausey, H. H. Streeter, and W. H. Johnston; examining board, D. C. Cooper, R. R. Wessendorf, H. J. Swayne, Russell Gravatt and P. C. Vaught.

We are now negotiating a new agreement with the Houston Lighting and Power Company and we wish to thank the various local unions for their prompt response and co-operation in the matter of wages paid in their vicinity. At any time this local can be of assistance to you, please call on us.

A. J. BANNON,
Business Manager.

L. U. NO. 68, DENVER, COLO.

Editor:

The hand of destiny again has taken toll in our midst. A fall in an elevator shaft at Colorado Springs some years ago has proven fatal to Charles Cady, well known to many members in the Middle and Rocky Mountain West, Charley having worked many years for the Elevator Supply Co. in Chicago and "on the road" before locating in the Denver district.

Charley's ever present qualities of patience, tolerance and resolute spirit reflecting as well his workmanship of thoroughness and enduring quality were in evidence to the final moments of his consciousness. "I'm fine, just fine," were the last audible words to pass his lips.

We may rest assured that Charley's card, of recent years in our International Office, now graces the files of the Grand Architect of the Universe.

JACK HUNTER.

L. U. NO. 102, PATERSON, N. J.

Editor:

On June 4, Local Union No. 102 was re-instituted by Vice President Kloter. From July 9, 1930, up to the time of its re-institution the membership of Local No. 102 was merged with Local No. 52 of Newark, New Jersey, and believe me, Brothers, it was a happy gathering of electrical workers that Brother Kloter faced when he re-instituted Local No. 102. Local No. 102 wishes to extend its heartiest thanks to President Tracy who saw fit to reissue our charter.

The following officers were elected to serve for the two year period: W. H. Cross, president; J. E. Pardoe, vice-president; E. L. Braun, recording secretary; N. Simonton, financial secretary; and the writer, business manager. Brothers S. Moskowitz, F. Snover, C. Prall, R. Newby, O. Van Delden, J. Hamer, and J. Holmes comprise the executive board. In the few weeks that we have been back in our own stamping ground the morale of the members has shown a decided turn for the better.

As I look back over the past five years and visualize the havoc this depression has wrought upon the local unions in our Brotherhood as far as membership is concerned, it makes me realize more than ever that we have neglected an important phase of our duties, namely, union education. To be a true blue union man one must have faith and believe in the principles for which he is organized. The men that join our ranks and consider it an investment would do well to read the preamble of our constitution.

The membership of local unions has fallen, I believe as low as it will go and from now on we must build and as we build this time let's not forget to educate. How many men do you know that were taken into our various locals in boom times, made big money, and then as soon as the local could not supply them with a job dropped their cards and went non-union, tearing down everything that had been built?

The majority of these men could have been made into good union men by placing them in the proper environment and educating them along union lines. We, as their instructors, failed in our duties, we were too busy working overtime and counting our money to bother with such a thing as educating our members. Every member of the Brotherhood should become acquainted with the history of the Brotherhood, we should know its principles and something about the trials and tribulations that our forebears went through to make the Brotherhood the institution it is today.

I trust that you readers will examine your conscience and ask yourself whether or not you have done all you could to promote the welfare of the Brotherhood and your local union. If you have, then all I can say is to keep up the good work, and if you are in the other category, then it is time to change.

So let's all get together and spread this gospel of unionism to our fellowmen and raise the Brotherhood to a height never attained before.

S. J. CRISTIANO.

L. U. NO. 106, JAMESTOWN, N. Y.

Editor:

Once again after an absence of several years from the columns of the JOURNAL, I will write to let the Brotherhood at large know that Local 106 is still on the map and doing business at the same old stand. We were down during the depression, but not out; we are on the upgrade again, reinstated a number of our old members, and some new ones. Negotiated a new agreement for another year with an increase in our hourly scale. Scale is now \$1.00 per hour. Practically all of our members are working at present. The new high school is taking quite a few of our members. I am enclosing a picture of some of the boys working on it. A couple of CCC camps in our vicinity are employing our men.

Brother H. Bennett was in here early last spring and helped us straighten out a shop that we have had difficulty with for about four years. Brother Jack McCadden was here on our agreement, but his services were not required as we had it under control.

At our last meeting the following officers were elected for the ensuing two years: President, Allen R. Webeck; vice president, F. C. Ball; recording secretary, S. C. Keller; financial secretary, F. J. Kruger; treasurer, E. B. Brugge; executive board, W. R. McLean, M. H. Ahlstrom, S. C. Keller, E. B. Brugge, F. J. Kruger, A. R. Webeck, and Art C. Anderson. Our meetings are well attended, our delegates are active in building trades, and we are getting good co-operation from the various trades.

Heard our International President, D. W. Tracy, talk from Geneva, Switzerland, over the radio Sunday, June 9. His talk certainly was inspiring.

The letter Brother Ainsworth, of Local 353, had in the June worker was fine, it certainly hit the nail squarely on the head. If the members would at least try some of those suggestions, it would have a tendency to make our conditions a great deal better.

W. R. McLean was delegated to a building trades conference of Western New York, held at Rochester, June 1, with about 60 delegates from various trades present. George Willax, of Local 41, was elected secretary, and genial Bill Fisher, also of 41, was temporary president in place of Brother Keyes, who was ill. We meet again July 13 at the same place. Maybe Brother Willax will give us a writeup later concerning this conference. How about it, George? Now

that I have broken the ice, I may get a letter in more often.

Advance! Work for the good of your union. If you can't boost, don't knock, don't be selfish, help your Brother member and he will help you.

Advance!

W. R. M.

L. U. NO. 177, JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

Editor:

Several members come in after they receive their JOURNAL each month and want to know why someone doesn't send in a letter every month—to which we invariably reply that it takes time and energy to write and that it seems to be a job that few care to take on.

One of the first things we are going to ask our new president to do, is to appoint a press secretary and instruct him to keep our local in the limelight.

We are just one of the local unions that has been bucking the wave of depression that has swept over the land, and being in such a low altitude the tide of unemployment swept us off our feet for a time, but most of us survived, and we can now feel more firm ground under foot.

Conditions of employment have improved somewhat, due partially to a revival of building operations and partly to a more general revival of commercial activity. We are still keeping a watchful eye on Congress and lending every bit of support we can to the legislative program of the American Federation of Labor. The local went on record at their last meeting as asking our representatives in Congress to support the move for better wages for our Brothers in the District of Columbia.

We have also put forth every effort to secure the Gulf-Atlantic ship canal which we feel will be of untold benefit to the people of this and other southern states—not only in furnishing employment when employment is sorely needed, but will be an asset to every commercial interest which does shipping to Atlantic and Gulf ports, since it will reduce the water mileage from Gulf and Texas ports to the eastern seaboard by several hundred miles. It should reduce the cost of gas and oil to our Brothers on the eastern slope and perhaps enable them to "get out of the red" with their gas man.

We have seen little change in conditions since NRA was given "knock-out" drops by the learned gentlemen of the Supreme Court, and there has been a gentlemen's agreement among most of the local contractors to adhere as closely to NRA regulations as possible. We have some who didn't "adhere" very closely at any time, but sometime we may be able to find a remedy for their type.

We are interested in the proposal for a federal electrical standards code as described in the June JOURNAL. We have always supported and have secured locally a fairly good electrical ordinance, but have felt the need of regulations on a national scale that would eliminate the sub-standard material, and, incidentally, the sub-standard mechanic from the field. This problem is largely one of educating our public to the dangers of faulty materials and workmanship, and every local union should lose no opportunity to get this over to the public through their labor press and by word of mouth.

Every electrical worker should



Wiremen's gang, from L. U. No. 106, working on the new high school at Jamestown, N. Y. Left to right, above: Ray Anderson, E. B. Brugge, W. R. McLean, M. H. Ahlstrom (foreman), Earl Clark, Floyd Moffitt, Art C. Anderson. Below: Paul Carlson, Frank Wenger, H. Sandburg, Robert Peterson (apprentice).

feel proud of the fact that our International President was the selection of American labor to be the representative from this country to the International Labour Conference at Geneva. This is a signal honor and we know that he will fill the place with honor to the American labor movement.

When I began this letter it was with the idea of giving the International Office, and the membership at large, the result of our biennial election, which was held this month. Most of the officers who have served for the past two years declined to be candidates and while most of the new officers are among the old standbys they have mostly succeeded in keeping free of official duties.

Brother Raymond C. Whitehouse will surrender the check book to become president for the next two years. Brother Leonard L. Snyder came under the wire in the lead for vice president. Brother M. C. "Chase" Driggers will take over the duties of recording secretary and take care of the correspondence—we hope.

Brother Glen L. Appling will succeed Valentine as financial secretary, and give the business manager more time to devote to the business. Brother Johnny Cox will take care of the funds as treasurer. This will be his first duty as an officer, and the first time elected to office. E. C. Valentine will continue in office as business manager, and with the responsibilities of financial secretary lifted, will devote his entire time to the job.

Brothers Harvey S. Pledger, Olin L. Wing and George R. Reisen were elected on the executive board, and with the president and secretary, will make up the membership of the board. We wish for them a very successful

administration, and we are hopeful that we will continue to go forward. There is a large field open to work in and two years is a long time to work—now let us begin.

E. C. VALENTINE.

L. U. NO. 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Editor:

Monday, June 10, was city election day in Minneapolis and proved a day of victory for labor, politically, in this city: as the Farmer-Labor party was successful, not only in electing their candidate for the office of mayor, but also gained control of the city council as well as electing some of their candidates to various other offices.

The public service corporations and other big financial interests, in conjunction with the Citizens Alliance, waged a frantic and ruthless fight to retain control of the city hall, but when the returns of the election were in, it was found that the Farmer-Labor forces had succeeded in electing the following: Thomas E. Latimer, mayor; Al Hanson, board of estimate and taxation; Edward Chalgren, in the 29th district, and Edwin A. Hendricks, in the 31st district, to the park board; Arthur Le Sueur, school director; Leila W. Harding and Myrtle Harris, library board, and the following aldermanic candidates: First ward, Dan O'Brien (re-elected); second ward, Glen Wallace; sixth ward, Al Bestis (re-elected); ninth ward, A. R. Cisslen (re-elected); 10th ward, I. G. Scott (re-elected); 11th ward, John A. Nelson; 12th ward, Michael J. Foley.

Out of 21 Farmer-Labor endorsed candidates there were only seven who failed of

election. These were candidates for the offices of comptroller, treasurer, one school director and four aldermen.

There are 13 wards in the city represented in the city council by two aldermen each. One from each ward elected every two years for a four-year term. This time, however, there were two to be elected from the seventh ward—one to fill out an unexpired term. Both the Farmer-Labor candidates in this ward were beaten. Also the Farmer-Labor candidates in the third and fifth wards lost to their opponents by small margins. In the fourth, eighth and 13th wards there were no Farmer-Labor candidates running. In both the fourth and eighth wards the incumbents, both "stand-pat reactionaries" were beaten by their opponents.

In the 33rd and 35th districts there were no Farmer-Labor candidates for the park board. In view of the number of labor candidates in the field we feel that the election was quite a sweeping victory for labor.

It is one of the mayor's prerogatives to appoint the chief of police and this had considerable to do with the 21,000 majority that Tom Latimer piled up over his opponent, for he pledged himself to get rid of Chief Johannis; whose policy of shooting down pickets in the truck drivers' strike of about a year ago, has made his name infamous among the ranks of organized labor throughout the country.

The labor element in the city council have been able to muster 11 or 12 votes in the recent past and with the three new members they will have at least 14 votes, which gives them a majority, as the council is composed



Taken at the turn of the century, 1899, this picture shows a line gang and their equipment at Monticello, Ia., working for the Iowa Bell Telephone Company. Left to right, top row: Ace Abel, lineman; Dave Crockett, groundman; Ed Bondweine, lineman; Barney Duffy, lineman; Elmer Brunn, lineman; Ed Reynolds, teamster; Ed McGinley, lineman; James Perfield, foreman. Front row, left to right: H. T. (Howe) Robinson, lineman; Earl O'Brien, lineman; William Duffy, lineman; Bert Seley, lineman; Earl Morrow, timekeeper; Jerry Lordon, groundman. H. T. Robinson and Ed Bondweine were the only linemen with membership in the I. B. E. W., which was a national organization at that time. Bondweine's card was in L. U. No. 55, Des Moines, Ia. Robinson's card was in L. U. No. 23, St. Paul, Minn. The picture is one of the cherished possessions of Robinson, now a member of L. U. No. 329, Shreveport, La.

of 26 members. With Tom Latimer as mayor and so no occasion to override a veto on any labor bill we should have a very decided control over city affairs.

There are many who do not approve of politics in the labor movement. Be that as it may, it sure pays for the labor movement to get into politics if it is to hold its own either on the economic or the political field.

W. WAPLES.

L. U. NO. 303, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

Editor:

Brother Ainsworth, of Local No. 353, sure does tell it out true; good luck to you, Brother, and may you keep up the good work. Many of us, year in and year out, are filled up by gas at the various filling stations, i. e., meetings, conventions, conferences and regular meetings where the importance of co-operation, sticking together and all that sort of thing is talked about, but, how is it acted upon? Say, my blood runs cold in the middle of summer when I think of it all spread out over years and years. Recently I was a delegate from our local trades council to a provincial convention, and during the proceedings some questions arose regarding a steel mill strike. Well, to come to the point that is important in this letter, it was pathetic, to put it mildly, how the remarks dwelt on the actions of some members of organized labor. To hear the wrangling, the hair-splitting would answer the question why we, as union men, don't get anywhere.

The glory of the union man who has gained a pedestal in some legislative body is nothing when we look around at the deplorable state of those who helped him to make the grade, and I question if some of these idols are not slow in letting pass the opportunity of gaining more for organized labor than we have. Yet, at this moment, if they were here I would have volumes of talk to show me what they have done, and what they are trying to do, and what they intend to do, and when they intended to do. But, Brother Ainsworth sums it all up when he lays before us the results up to date.

It is a hard pull when you are in the middle, and the local union officer is the one who has all the heartbreaks; grief as a friend calls it. But, the members, individually, are responsible and should wake up to the fact that it is themselves alone who have the power to make or break the organization. Many of those individuals seem to let her break, because through some trickery, or other shortcomings, they don't get results. But, remember, it is up to each member to think and act in all matters. They are the rulers, but don't know it.

THOS. W. DEALY.

L. U. NO. 306, AKRON, OHIO

Editor:

At our recent election, I was the unfortunate one to be appointed to write a few lines for our JOURNAL.

It has been a long time since any news has been published in our JOURNAL about Local No. 306.

Our local is still on the map and is making progress. We have had an uphill struggle for many years, but our efforts are beginning to bear fruit.

Nearly 14 years of persistent and consistent effort put forth on the part of a few loyal electrical workers, who have hung on with the stamina of a bull dog, have finally brought about a harmonious relationship with a number of the major electrical contractors in this city and we have entered into a closed shop agreement.

Akron, as you know, was always a noted

anti-union open shop town, but things have changed somewhat in the past two years. All organizations here have made considerable progress. It has not been an easy task. A lot of hard work has been put in. Nothing is gained by labor without a lot of heart-breaking sacrifices and hard work. It is well for it to be that way. We appreciate things more and guard against a recurrence when we have to fight for what we get.

Bona-fide union organizations have been established in the rubber industry in Akron in the past two years, in the past an almost impossible undertaking.

The rubber barons have fought viciously against any attempt to unionize the industry. They have fostered their pet company unions, etc., to defeat bona-fide union movement, but nevertheless, organization has gone forward. Progress has been made. History has been recorded. It has been a tremendous task. Five, 10 or 15 years ago it would have been industrial suicide for a worker to join a labor union in the rubber industry, as well as other industries.

Let's see what the picture is today. The same rubber baron of past years who would cut the throat of a worker who thought of joining a union, that same official is now sitting across the table and negotiating with union officials. Agreements have been entered into with many of these employers, covering hours, wages and working conditions. A remarkable contrast in conditions of today and yesteryear.

Yet there is much to be done. We have not yet scratched the surface, but we have a foot hold. What is accomplished towards bringing about freedom and industrial democracy for the workers, depends on the workers themselves. The struggle must be continued. We must keep hammering away continually at the enemy's forces that are striving to keep us in involuntary servitude.

The Akron electrical workers, by their persistent efforts in carrying on the struggle and continually pounding away at the opposing forces, have finally removed many of the barriers and obstacles that stood in the way to the goal of freedom and industrial democracy.

If we are to reach that goal, we must stand united on every working class issue. Our problems are not merely local ones. Our problems are national and international in scope. We must organize and organize strongly in bona-fide unions if we expect to solve our problems and establish a new social order that will protect the economic well being of the entire working mass.

W. H. WILSON.

L. U. NO. 326, LAWRENCE, LOWELL AND HAVERHILL, MASS.

Editor:

Local 326 and Local 104 are trying to secure as much statistics as possible in regards to men who have been fatally or seriously "burnt" while working on high tension wires. We would like to have any local or the International furnish us the answer to the following questions:

1. How many members of our Brotherhood have died from electrocution in the following states: Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Connecticut?

2. How many insidemen?

3. How many linemen or outsiders?

4. Can you give me any statistics in regards to electrocution of utility workers who are not members of our Brotherhood?

5. Is there a law in California in regard to two men working on all high tension wires?

6. Have you any statistics in regard to utility workers who have been seriously "burnt" on the job?

7. If you cannot give me this information, is there any way I could possibly secure it?

8. Is there any state in the union that compels a lineman or cablesplicer to have a journeyman's license?

The reason for these questions is to assist us in securing legislation in Massachusetts which will compel all utility companies or contractors to employ none but trained linemen who will have to have a journeyman's license. And if we had our way, a card in the Brotherhood.

When we have these two bills finally drafted I am going to send you copies for publication in our JOURNAL.

We feel that if we can get these bills through in Massachusetts in a very short time we will have every lineman and cableman in our Brotherhood.

We have been promised the full co-operation of all the inside and mixed locals at our state convention. And if they go all the way through with us, we will certainly be successful.

Mr. Editor, I have a very serious complaint to make about the operation of our JOURNAL.

In the March issue of our JOURNAL you had an article in regards to a "diet."

I wonder if Sally Lunn thinks that "calories" are "carrots"? I am just submitting this question at the request of Brothers Bill Hogan, Hec Goyette and our B. M. who went on this "damn" diet and instead of losing 20 pounds gained about 25 pounds.

Now I ask you what are you going to do about this Sally Lunn?

Is it not a grievous offense against the laws of the International to publish such misleading information in our JOURNAL?

Brother Hogan, who weighed 210 pounds when he started on this diet, now weighs 250 pounds, wishes to send this greeting to Sally, and we join with him in the hope that she will have to go through life an old maid, and we hope some day, somebody makes her go on the same diet, and in a short while she will weigh a ton.

And if Sally will go back to that doctor that gave her that "diet" and marry him everything would be "rosy."

Our motto from now on is "the hell with all diets." We eat when we are hungry, if we have anything to eat.

JOHN F. O'NEILL.

L. U. NO. 339, FORT WILLIAM AND PORT ARTHUR, ONT.

Editor:

Three months have elapsed since I last wrote to the JOURNAL. This month many members confronted me with the question: "What's the matter? No letter in the JOURNAL." The truth of the matter is, there is very little activity relating to labor to write about; it is sad to relate such a story, but, nevertheless, it is true. Now is the time that organized labor should be at its best showing, and fighting to better conditions. But, the reverse is the truth. Many thoughts have passed through my head in the past months that probably would have made a half decent letter, but now, when it comes down to action I am all at sea. Day dreaming is as useless as a passing dream in the night.

Last meeting was very well attended, which, by the way, is very encouraging. Agreement committees representing the municipal employees of Fort William and Port Arthur reported that they had signed the existing agreement for another year. Many of the members were disappointed in not receiving the basic rate of 1932 back, but I am sure that many will join with me in congratulating the committees for their good work in maintaining wages and conditions as well as they have in these trying times.

While I am on this question of agreements, might I suggest to all Canadian locals, having signed agreements, that they send in a copy of same to our International Vice President, Brother Ingles. I think that this would be a good idea, and when any local desires information as to wages and conditions throughout the country, one communication would be sufficient to get this information, thus eliminating writing each individual local as we have had to do in the past.

Our second annual picnic is in the making, and we are looking forward to a bigger and better picnic this year, although we will have to go some to better the one we had last year. "Viva la beer et la hot dog."

Congratulations to Brother Joe, of Local 568, in his efforts in giving the first true travel story to the May issue of the JOURNAL. It was very sad, but nevertheless, very interesting. How about some more? Brother Joe Obway, of our local, could write a dandy story of a fishing experience he had last year. How about it, Joe? I feel sure, Mr. Editor, that if Joe ever sent you his story it wouldn't appear in print for some time, as you wouldn't be able to stop laughing long enough to get it into print.

As an international organization, naturally we are interested in conditions in the U. S. A., bonded together as we are through our democratic form of government, trade agreements, interchange of radio programs, and most everything that pertains to our every day life. There are no two other countries in the universe with the same relations as exist between the U. S. A. and Canada. We have a border which extends over 5,000 miles without a single defense of any kind. Might I inject this little story while I am on this subject:

An American tourist asked a Canadian what the strength of Canada's army is. He replied, 28,001. The American asked, "What is the idea of the odd one?" "Well," said the Canadian, "he takes care of the international boundary."

Therefore, when I say we are interested in the U. S. A. it is no idle boast. The recent decision handed down by the Supreme Court, condemning the NRA as unconstitutional, thereby scrapping all industrial codes, must have rocked the foundations of labor very hard. Once more the barons of finance scored a hit. Let us hope they don't get any further than first base. The fight for social security must go on in spite of the scrapping of NRA. Labor has its part to play, and it is to be hoped that labor, through the A. F. of L., will work out some substitute for NRA that will be approved by Congress, and that will continue to bring pressure on the barons of finance and industry, and will stop them squeezing the life blood out of the workers in order to gain big profits through their unfair practices. We wish labor every success in their efforts to combat this new evil, brought about by the scrapping of NRA. We in Canada realize that the quicker the U. S. A. comes back to prosperity the quicker Canada will respond, as we have so much in common.

The political situation in Canada is, practically speaking, in a turmoil at the present time. No one can forecast to date what is going to happen. We have the Conservative party in power at present, doing their best to put through a so-called form of social legislation, to gain the favor of the people for the coming election. We have the Liberals backing this legislation to the limit, but claiming at the same time that it is unconstitutional and they are waiting for election time to display their wares, which by the way, they say the Conservative party has stolen from them. They, in my opinion, are figuring on

gaining power through the discontent that the depression has brought about.

Then we have the C. C. F. building up their organization and getting ready for their end of the fight. Each party just as confident as the other. The C. C. F., with radical and communistic tendencies interjected into their platform, are making a bid for the organized labor vote. Last meeting one of their leaders gave us a short talk, and wanted us to send delegates to their forthcoming convention, when they will select a member to contest this riding in the next election. We, as a body, turned down their request, giving as a reason that as a body we had never mixed in politics, and also that we felt that a man's vote is sacred, and that it is a matter of conscience for each individual.

Finally, in this turmoil, there is the Hon. H. H. Stevens, formerly minister of trade and commerce, and now just an ordinary member of the Conservative party. Some time ago he was appointed as chairman of the mass buying and price spreads investigating commission. He proved to be a good man in this capacity, and as good men go, he began to delve deep into the unfair practices of the barons of industry. Of course you can guess what happened, a halt was called to his deep digging, and Mr. Stevens was man enough to resign his chairmanship, also his position as cabinet minister. But, he wasn't slow in telling the world why he resigned. His statements have gained him untold popularity throughout the Dominion. Great credit is coming to this man for the course he took, and I, myself, feel confident that if this man was to come out as leader of an independent party with the platform of democratic and Christian ideals, that he has in the back of his head, that he would be the unanimous choice of the electorate. "He's a champion of the poor, downtrodden worker."

Might I say, Mr. Editor, in closing, the above remarks are just a few of our own thoughts, good or bad, as they may seem to others. We are all entitled to our own views and thoughts, as these things were endowed to us at birth, when we were given a free will by our creator.

Here's a thought for union men:

"Each one can do but little, but if each one would do that little, all would be done."

F. KELLY.

L. U. NO. 349, MIAMI, FLA.

Editor:

On this day, May 30, 1935, set aside as Memorial Day, for those men and women who dedicated their lives to the cause of their country, our glorious United States of America, gatherings and exercises of some kind are being held in every town and hamlet, to honor and glorify the memories of these heroes, and rightly. On this day, of every year, our people as a whole, set aside business and have love in their hearts for those heroes who have laid down their lives for a principle.

But, unfortunately, the American people have a short memory. The other 364 days of the year, they give little thought to those who died that the majority could work, live and die in peace.

So it is with us trade unionists. How many of us give a thought to those great men and women who have died, but not in vain, in their efforts to give the genera-

tions to come the right to peace, security and the right to hold their head up in the brotherhood of man? Starting from apprenticeship, virtual slavery, starvation wages, these champions of our great cause fought against unbelievable odds, unheralded, unsung, that their children, and children's children, could live as human beings should. Are we going to let their efforts be in vain? Are we going to forget Gompers, Noonan, and the countless others who died, fighting for our cause, until they breathed their last?

The answer is no. We are going to dedicate today, and every day, to those, our heroic dead, and work just as hard to recompense them for their efforts in our behalf. But, to do so, we will have to educate ourselves more as to the fundamental principles of trade unionism.

Several years ago, through economic conditions and other conditions over which we had no control, this country was forced into a depressed condition. Things went from bad to worse until a Gabriel appeared on the scene, our glorious President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. In an effort to save his country from oblivion, he formed the NRA. Always a champion of the common people, the laborers, the act tended to first, help them, and through them the employers. for Mr. Roosevelt realized, as everyone should, that the turnover of the laboring people's money is what makes prosperity. He demanded a living wage and minimum hours for his people. Also, he attempted to obliterate one of the greatest curses ever perpetrated upon this country, the use of child labor by unscrupulous employers.

We must admit that some parts of the NRA did not conform with our great Constitution, but, in times like these, when people are starving, they can't eat the Constitution. In my humble opinion the Supreme Court conferred little honor upon themselves when they waited two years to declare unlawful a program that was devised in an attempt to save our country from oblivion. For, let us not fool ourselves, if this country had to go through two more of the years of cut-throat competition, chiseling, wage cutting and other practices as they were before the NRA, our Constitution would have meant nothing, for the great masses of common people would have gone Communistic. God grant that we never do, that we have the courage to steer as straight a course as we did under the NRA.

Already some of the more unscrupulous of the large employers have raised hours and lowered wages so that they can take the food off of the poor man's table and thus fatten their already huge bank accounts. But, thank God, there are still some employers and companies that have a sense of fair play, and further realize that the more money the working man has to spend, the more money they make. Meetings are being held all over the country, and employers are pledging themselves to go along as they did under the NRA. They realize that chiseling will lead the best of them to bankruptcy. The breadline never lead to prosperity. It is the duty of every working man to help them, and thereby help themselves. And especially, us trade unionists. Too many of us have sat by passively, waiting for the other fellow to do it. We must wake up.

Let us not fool ourselves. At the present time there is chaos. There are terrible conditions, so it is up to individuals to put their shoulders to the wheel.

All of us understand conditions as they are among the building trade departments, and that the associated building trades mechanics of Miami were formed so that we could work as a unit until such time as the

THIS BUTTON IN YOUR LAPEL
proudly announces membership in
the I. B. E. W. A handsome bit of
jewelry, in gold and
enamel. Solid gold, small
size. **\$1.50**



building trades question is cleared up. But, I'm sorry to say, there are some disgruntled individuals who stand up, wave their arms, and shout, "I object." We don't mind them, for they would object if they had golden plates to eat out of. We know who they are, for every local is burdened with a few, and we accept them as an unnecessary evil.

This article was written by our Brother W. C. "Bill" Johnson, who is the able secretary of the newly-formed Association of Building Trades Mechanics of Greater Miami, and of whom we are very proud. It was not intended for publication, but I think it is a very worthy and timely article for our readers.

CLARENCE GRIMM.

L. U. NO. 353, TORONTO, ONT.

Editor:

We expect June, 1935, to go down in the history of this local union as a red letter month. A committee composed of President Jack Nutland, Brothers R. Gardiner, F. Ainsworth and the writer, along with I. V. P. Ingles, have been working on a new agreement, which will come under the Industrial Standards Act. This act was put in force by the Liberal government, elected in this province last year and is designed to eliminate unfair competition. Louis Fine was appointed industrial standards commissioner and works in conjunction with James Marsh, Deputy Minister of Labor and with Mr.

Crawford, chairman of the minimum wage board, who has the enforcing of the act.

For the benefit of other locals in this province we will outline the procedure, which provides for four points of an agreement, to become law and apply to any and all employed in the trade. These points are, namely, number of hours per day and week to be worked, rate per hour and overtime rate and the zone in which the rates apply.

After several conferences with a number of contractors our local made application to come under this act and a preliminary conference was held with Commissioner Fine. He then inserted an advertisement in the press to the effect that anyone connected with the electrical repair and construction industry was invited to a meeting to be held in the Parliament buildings, Monday, June 24, under the chairmanship of Mr. Fine. The trade was well represented and after a three hour discussion the meeting adjourned for lunch, at which time a tentative agreement was drawn up and brought back for approval. After a short discussion on one or two points the following agreement was decided on. Eight hours per day, to be worked between 8 a. m. Monday and 5 p. m. Friday, 40 hour week, rate \$1.00 per hour. Double time for all overtime. Saturday morning work would be permitted only on emergency and paid straight time. These conditions to apply in the city of Toronto and a 10 mile radius outside the city.

A board has been appointed which will meet and receive complaints, which in turn will be checked and sent on to the minimum

wage board for action. This board consists of three contractors and two journeymen, namely, C. C. Rathgeb of Canadian Comstock company, G. G. Richardson of Richardson and Cross, P. A. Cheevers of Art Electric Construction Company, Brother J. F. Nutland, our president, and Cecil M. Shaw.

This agreement will become effective approximately 10 days after it receives the order in council. At a later date we will give a more detailed account of the working of this act, in the meantime, we will close with apologies to the Editor for getting in late and hoping he will be able to squeeze this letter in this month's issue of the JOURNAL.

CECIL M. SHAW,
Business Manager.

L. U. NO. 369, LOUISVILLE, KY.

Editor:

The Frankfort Distilling company of Louisville and Baltimore are still on the "we don't patronize" list of this local union despite the fact that they are sending labor papers all over the country attempting to create the impression that they are fair to union labor. This firm still employs non-union electricians and all other crafts in their plant, and don't forget that they built their plants with non-union labor. If this company settles its differences with organized labor we will advise union men all over the country of the fact.

The Building Trades Council is still receiving letters from all sections of the country inquiring about the status of this com-

FRATERNITY OF THE AIR

(Copyright)

Boys, here is our growing list of I. B. E. W. amateur radio stations:

W 8 A N B	Carl P. Goetz	Hamilton, Ohio	W 9 R R X	Bob J. Adair	Midlothian, Ill.
W 8 D I L	E. E. Hertz	Cleveland, Ohio	W 2 D X K	Irving Megeff	Brooklyn, N. Y.
W 3 J B	William N. Wilson	Philadelphia, Pa.	W 9 R B M	Ernest O. Bertrand	Kansas City, Mo.
W 5 B H O	D. H. Calk	Houston, Texas	W 9 E N V	G. G. Fordyce	Waterloo, Iowa
W 5 E I	F. H. Ward	Houston, Texas	W 9 J P J	F. N. Stephenson	Waterloo, Iowa
W 6 H O B	Rudy Rear	Las Vegas, Nev.	W 9 S	Frank Smith	Waterloo, Iowa
W 9 G V Y	E. O. Schuman	Chicago, Ill.	160 meter		
W 8 D H Q	Harold C. Whitford	Hornell, N. Y.	phone, 1963		
W 9 S M F	Albert H. Waters	Alton, Ill.	KC		
W 9 D M Z	Clarence Kraus	Kansas City, Kans.	W 5 E Y G	H. E. Owen	Angola, N. Y.
W 9 P N H	Frank Riggs	Rockford, Ill.	W 5 E X Y	L. M. Reed	Oklahoma City, Okla.
W 9 S O O	Harry V. Eyring	Kansas City, Mo.	W 7 D X Z	H. R. Fees	Oklahoma City, Okla.
W 2 B F L	Anthony J. Samaliosis	Elizabeth, N. J.	W 1 D G W	Frank C. Pratt	Tacoma, Wash.
W 1 F J A	Frank W. Lavery	Somerville, Mass.	W 2 G I Y	Melvin I. Hill	W. Springfield, Mass.
W 5 A S D	Frank A. Finger	Farmington, Ark.	W 9 M E L	John C. Muller	Bronx, N. Y. C.
W 2 B Q B	William E. Kind	Bronx, N. Y. C.	W 5 C A P	Harold S. (Mel) Hart	Chicago, Ill.
W 9 D B Y	Kenneth G. Alley	Marion, Ill.	W 5 A B Q	William L. Canze	San Antonio, Texas
W 8 G H X	H. E. Owen	Angola, N. Y.	Gerald Morgan	J. B. Rives	San Antonio, Texas
W 1 A G I	W. C. Nielson	Newport, R. I.	W 5 J C	J. B. Rives	San Antonio, Texas
W 8 E D R	W. O. Beck	Toledo, Ohio	W 4 D L W	Harry Hill	Savannah, Ga.
W 2 C A D	Paul A. Ward	Newark, N. J.	W 9 C C K	John J. Noonan	Chicago, Ill.
W 6 L R S	Ralph F. Koch	Los Angeles, Calif.	W 8 A C B	Raymond Jelinek	Detroit, Mich.
W 6 A O R	Francis M. Sarver	Los Angeles, Calif.	W 6 I A H	S. E. Hyde	Los Angeles, Calif.
W 6 G F I	Roy Meadows	Los Angeles, Calif.	N 6 I A H	S. E. Hyde	Los Angeles, Calif.
W 6 F W M	Victor B. Appel	Los Angeles, Calif.	W 4 B S Q	S. L. Hicks	Birmingham, Ala.
W 6 H L K	Charles A. Noyes	Beverly Hills, Calif.	W 6 M G N	Thomas M. Catish	Fresno, Calif.
W 6 H L X	Frank A. Maher	Los Angeles, Calif.	W 8 L G T	J. H. Melvin	Rochester, N. Y.
W 8 D M E	Charles J. Heiser	Auburn, N. Y.	W 8 A V L	E. W. Watton	Rochester, N. Y.
W 8 K C L	Charles J. Heiser	Auburn, N. Y.	W 7 E Q M	Albert W. Beck	Big Sandy, Mont.
			W 7 S Q	James E. Williss	Dieringer, Wash.

Canada

V E 3 G K

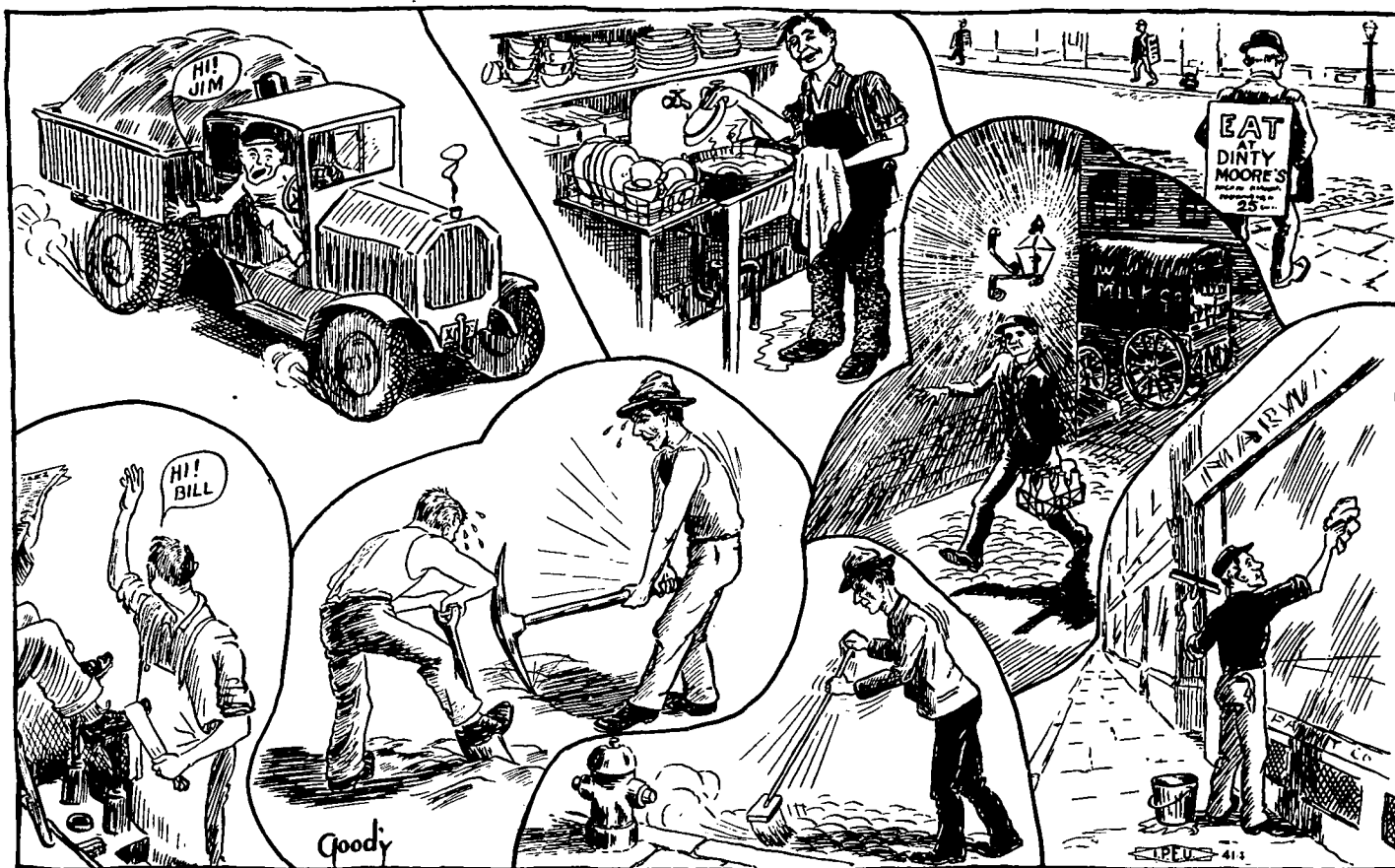
Sid Burnett

Toronto, Ont.

FRATERNITY GROWS BY COMMUNICATION

OH, YES! A LARGE NUMBER OF BUILDING TRADES MECHANICS ARE AT WORK!

Drawn especially for Electrical Workers Journal by Harrie S. Goodwin



pany and we again ask all union men to remember these brands: FOUR ROSES, ANTIQUE, SHIPPINGPORT, PAUL JONES, OLD OSCAR PEPPER, or MATTINGLY AND MOORE whiskey, as they are the products of this concern.

H. H. HUDSON, B. M.

L. U. NO. 435, WINNIPEG, MAN.

Editor:

The complete slate of officers was reelected at our last meeting. President F. Keeley and Secretary Tookey both very modestly offered to resign and give someone else an opportunity to acquire experience and obtain dignity in the community. However, the vast majority were of the opinion that both Brothers were ably carrying out the duties of their offices.

How many local unions in these tough times have the right to refer to their membership as "vast"? I presume you all know International Executive Councilman J. L. McBride. He is our business manager. Our treasurer, J. Lewis, did not offer to let anyone have his job. Can it be that it is a better job than the others?

In spite of the fact that the press secretary was very severely criticized at the previous meeting he was reappointed. Secretary Tookey offered to bet *two*—look them over, Brothers! count them! one, two—bottles of beer that a letter would not appear in every subsequent edition for the balance of the year. It's the climate, Brothers, there is something reckless in this northern air. So, the bet is on, Brother Tookey. Did you say pints or quarts?

There are three strikes in progress in Winnipeg at the time of writing.

The structural steel workers, members of the O. B. U., have tied up the new Federal Building. They want an increase from 75 cents to 90 cents an hour.

The disabled war veterans are staging a peaceable demonstration and are camping at the Deer Lodge War Hospital until the authorities agree to treat them with the same consideration extended to civilian pensioners receiving relief. It is hard to understand why a man who has fought for his country should be considered less worthy of help than one who hasn't.

The single unemployed men are also on strike throughout the west. They are young men who can't get work and can see no prospect of ever getting work unless some united steps are taken to provide it.

The situation is serious and the attitude of R. B. Bennett is bound to lead to bloodshed. Something to improve the prospects of these men must be done.

In reading over this "missile" I think a nom de plume would be wise so I sign myself

"TWO BOTTLES,"

Coming up.

L. U. NO. 440, RIVERSIDE, CALIF.

Editor:

It has been some time since this Local 440 has been heard from, but we have been readers of the WORKER just the same and sure appreciate some of the articles in there by the members.

We have been reading and hearing a great deal about Communism. That seems to be a very popular subject at the present time. If labor does anything wrong it is the Communist. If "big interests" wish to put over

a raw deal like the Bay State longshoremen's strike they call out the national guard (which is only a tool of big interests) because of the Communist. I am not a Communist and do not know if that is to my credit or not, but it seems to me if it is a thing to be combatted, we should start with the thing that causes it. We can never correct a thing so long as the cause of it remains. Communism was never heard from so long as people were working, making a fair living and conditions even half way right. If those conditions were to exist again people would not pay any attention to any *isms*.

According to our national manufacturing associations' report, they are not losing much, yet by their layoffs, etc., they have brought about a condition amongst their employees of dissatisfaction, discontent, etc., until they are looking for something to help them out. They think if they were to take over the business they could at least make a living (which they are not doing now). They have waited in hopes, lived on promises that turned to lies until they are ready to take action, by force if necessary. Likewise we see the transfer of large blocks of stock to a wife, or some member of the family at a big loss until after we declare our income tax, then we buy it back again. That was legal. But consider the man out of a job with a small home and what about his taxes? He has to pay or move out, turning his property over to the state. We have a constitution of this U. S. A. drawn up supposedly for the benefit of the people. Yet we see this government trying to do something for the people being blocked by big interests. We refer to the Tennessee Valley project and power trusts. These are only a few of the breeders of

Communism. Why not this organization and A. F. of L. get together and start a campaign against the thing that has and is causing this condition? There is a way out and it would restore the national resources of this country to the rightful owners, the people, and correct the conditions that exist today. We would surely like to hear from some of the other locals on this matter, also some writeups in the WORKER by our International Officers.

C. B. FRAKER.

L. U. NO. 459, JOHNSTOWN, PA.

Editor:

Greetings, Brothers: We are still kicking and we want to tell you that our kick is getting stronger and healthier every day. We are not all kicking in unison as yet, which is tending to retard our progress somewhat, but we hope to be doing the goose step to perfection one of these days, with every man in step and all working together to accomplish the same result; namely, a decent living wage, under decent working conditions, and that, after all is said and done, is something that we are all entitled to, and all we ask for, and for lack of which men will fight and always have fought.

Ours is a comparatively new local, and to most of our members the first step they have ever taken into the realm of unionism. Naturally some are disappointed with the progress we have made so far in our dealings with our employers because they were expecting too much in too short a time. If hell ever is made over into a heaven, it will hardly be accomplished in a day, so with the condition of the working men, conditions that have existed for years cannot be changed over night (that 10 per cent deduction idea for instance), but they can be changed by consistent and continuous effort. The speed with which any betterment in working conditions is accomplished depends on the men themselves; that is, if the majority of the men are men, and not jelly-fish.

Any working man with a brain the size of a molecule knows that his only hope for security is in union with his fellow workers, yet many of our fellow workers refuse to join us, and others after a short trial have dropped out. It must be their jelly-fish complex that makes them act that way. They refuse to join their fellow workers because they are afraid of displeasing their boss, or because they are too miserly to pay the union dues. At the same time they break their silly necks grabbing for the benefits that the union men obtain for them.

For a new local we have achieved results that are very encouraging and we hope for better and more lasting benefits as we grow older and wiser. We have sold ourselves on the union idea, at least most of us have. There are still some among us who are content to crawl on their belly every time the boss looks their way and to try to live on a wage that is slightly above the "dole" level. Big business is everlastingly squawking about the impossibility of shorter working hours and higher wages, while at the same time spending millions for new improved machinery and methods for performing a certain specified amount of work with less men, thereby making the need of shorter hours for labor more imperative. The U. S. A. once told the world: "We have millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute." Big business tells labor, "We have millions for improved machinery, but not one cent more for labor than labor can wring out of us." Unemployment cannot be reduced until working hours are reduced. In the past 10 or 15 years, industry has

made great strides in the art of producing a larger output of finished goods, with the use of fewer men. The steel mills produce more steel—the railroads haul more tonnage—the power plants generate more K.W.H.—automobile plants manufacture more cars, in fact almost anything you can imagine, from a pretzel to the Empire State Building is produced with the use of fewer men per unit of output.

Even the production of babies seems to be on a larger and more efficient basis, with the use of fewer men, as witness the epidemic of twins, triplets, quadruplets and quintuplets that is sweeping the country. What is the remedy for this 20th century craze for producing the necessities of life with improved machines, which produce more and more of a product and require less and less men for their operation? Before a machine is built, it is designed for the sole purpose of producing a larger output of a certain product, and capable of being operated by fewer men than the machine which it is replacing.

This perfection of machinery is as it should be. It shows that the world is moving ahead but the world can only progress as the majority of the people progress. The U. S. A. cannot make progress with 10,000,000 or more men out of work. It can't even hold its own. Under present conditions it will retrogress. What to do about it? All I can see is shorter working hours. If machines are going to do the work, then let the pinch-penny misers that own the machines, share some of the profits of the machines with the men who operate them. If they don't, eventually there will be no profit. The machines will be idle and we will be living in a grass shack and wearing a grass skirt, due to our inability to buy the product of the machines.

A few years ago big business shouted from the house tops that it was impossible to do away with the 84-hour work week. Now the figures are reversed to 48 hours in most cases, and the companies are still in business. The men working are not complaining about working too many hours, it is just a case of too many men not working any hours. In the final show-down, it will be a case of shorter working hours or fewer machines, and to stop or retard the use of machines is certainly not the right answer. The answer to the shorter work week is up to the unions. If it comes the unions will bring it. Capital gives nothing except what is squeezed out of it. John D., in the "good old days" used to pass out a few free dimes, but lately has seen the error of his way, and no longer commits this extravagance. He wouldn't even risk a dime on a chain letter, according to the papers. Not like some people I know!

To get back to Local No. 459. It seems to be a favorite indoor sport of some of the Brothers to "work overtime" at criticizing the ideas of others and to "lay off" altogether when it comes to suggesting something themselves. Another mistaken idea of some of the Brothers, is that their officers are supermen, capable of accomplishing anything and everything suggested, and of adjusting any and all complaints and grievances, just by snapping their fingers. Several former members say they dropped out, because of grievances which were not adjusted to their satisfaction. In some cases they really didn't have a justifiable grievance. In any case, by leaving the union, they make certain that the grievance will not be adjusted. Others have quit because they professed not to like certain officers, others refuse to join for the same reason. All of which is a lot of hooey. If you don't like the way things are going, stay in and fight them out. Our local was formed

for the benefit of all of us, and not for a favored few. Its ability to help us and to "get us something," depends on the members as a whole, and not on the officers alone. Our local recently joined the Central Labor Union, of Johnstown, with the approval of the International Office, which should benefit us in more ways than we as yet can know. At least it keeps us informed of the doings and efforts of other organized units, and helps to create enthusiasm which eventually, becomes contagious, and we sincerely hope that all of our members (and also fellow workers who are not members) will in the near future contract that beneficial disease of "Unionitis."

PRESS SECRETARY.

L. U. NO. 500, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Editor:

Well, here we are again, everything running pretty smooth, and want to say first of all that "It ain't gonna rain no mo', no mo'," (maybe?). We don't know how the Brothers in other localities made out during the rain or storms (and high water) but we have had our share here. However, our hi-tension lines kept their steady flow of juice available to our neighboring consuming companies, who depend upon the public service company here for a feed in to their substations at various towns. Speaking of towns (we don't dare to mention it anymore in the presence of Brother Berg) D'Hanis was badly hit by storm and flood. That was the closest "Old Man River" came to us. However, the sun is again shining here for us who have to be outdoors, and we are grateful, very grateful, and also in deep sympathy with those who lost their relatives in the floods.

We want to express our sympathy to Brother Marsheck who met with an accident several weeks ago while working on the lines. We are very glad Brother Marsheck is getting along nicely, and hope to see him O. K. and back on the job again. We would like to add also that after having taken a 21-story ride in an elevator one Saturday morning to visit him, we were informed that Brother Marsheck had walked out just about 25 minutes before. Oh! Well, our intentions were good anyhow.

We have had some new faces over at Jones avenue recently. Some Brothers from Station B came to work over at the electric distribution department. We welcome them, although at present we haven't learned all of their names. Anyhow names aren't altogether important for sooner or later they will be given a name "even as you and I" as the saying goes. They are a nice bunch of fellows. Wish them luck.

Just recently a Brother over in the gas department (we won't mention the name 'cause we will have to go by there again sometime) stuck his head out the window while we were stopping there on business, and informed us that he had read our column. Well, we are glad he did, and hope sometime that this column will improve, of course we only hope. We have begged, pleaded, and done everything but bribe, some of the Brothers here to donate us a little, just a little news, or something entertaining but alas, and slack.

Oh, yes. Brother O'Dowd was slightly injured, but you can't hurt the Irish, so he will be back on the job soon, we just know it.

PRESS SECRETARY.

L. U. NO. 526, WATSONVILLE, CALIF.

Editor:

The Supreme Court's ruling on the NRA will make readjustments necessary in all lines of business. Price cutting and chiseling will be done in many places.

Many wholesalers who have been stocking up, and had hopes to sell at a big profit, are now cancelling their orders wherever possible. They feel sure that they can buy much cheaper later on.

The dealers who loaded up on overalls, for instance, that used to sell for 75 cents, and which now sell for \$1.25 or more, under the NRA, are wondering what to do now.

It will take some time for this adjustment to be made, and people are holding off to see how far prices will drop.

It seems to be the hard luck of the Democratic party to be in power, or to come into power, when there is a depression.

Republicans claim that it is because Democrats are in power, and Democrats say it's because they are put in to straighten out things after the Republicans have stolen everything.

The fact that the average level of prices during two former depression periods in our history has been far below where it was in 1933, should make everyone feel that a responsibility rests on the administration to make some kind of an adjustment for the better as soon as possible.

This adjustment can be made by putting the Townsend Plan to work, by the circulation of money through the Townsend Plan.

Babson says that he is counting on a big improvement in business, and that industrial earnings averaged 29 per cent more in the first quarter of 1935 than it did a year ago. How much more would it be improved with the Townsend Plan money in circulation?

In the panic of 1895 prices went down and down, and the only thing that brought the country out of that depression was the war with Spain. Today we have no war in sight to bring us out of this depression.

The makings of another boom are here, but the circulation of money is needed to start the ball rolling.

Capital and labor will have to do their part, and not rock the boat. The banks must loosen up and lend money.

There is a need for several million new homes, but these homes are out of reach of the people who need them most, because of unemployment, and the lack of money to pay for them.

Building activity has increased in the past few months, yet there are far more workers than jobs.

The problem of unemployment has never been solved, nor will it be until such time as there is more work than men.

The scrapping of codes will result differently in various industries, prices will come down on all commodities except those in which there is a shortage.

Reemployment plans are being injured and delayed by imports of cheap stuff from Japan and other foreign countries where labor costs are low.

Our own producers cannot compete with the conditions under which these foreign products are produced, nor can our workers live as labor does in these foreign countries.

Clarence Darrow makes a very caustic comment on the NRA, he says, "Small business men have been forced to the wall by the greed of the big business interests which conceived the NRA. Despite all the sham surrounding it, the NRA never was the friend of the poor, and God knows the poor need a friend. The price-fixing codes were unconstitutional because they constituted an open and shut case of class legislation."

The NRA made rosy promises to labor, but it failed to deliver the goods.

It is claimed that wages and employment are lower than they would have been, had there been no NRA, that it lowered rather than raised the standards of wages and employment.

The huge army of officeholders created by the NRA will now be thrown on the unemployment rolls.

The NRA added to the cost of producing and marketing all products. These costs were passed on to the consumer who was the one to be hurt most.

The consumer, in large numbers, being unemployed was, and still is, unable to buy, but with the NRA out of the way and the cost of the NRA removed, he may have it a little easier.

Business is ready to go ahead as soon as confidence is restored.

Babson says we are on the eve of one of the greatest booms in the history of the country, but that a political "dog fight" is holding up recovery.

If this is a fact why not step in and separate these "fighting dogs?"

The President does not seem to be a very good dog trainer or he would soon stop them. What we need is some one who knows how to handle these dogs without fear of their bite.

I heartily agree with the Editor when he says "no" on publishing contributions from people who do not sign their names.

I think that if any one has anything to say, or write, he should have "guts" enough to put his name on it.

There may be many who do not agree with what I have written, but I see no reason to be afraid to sign my name to my letters, and I also like to know who is writing the articles I read.

So, Brothers, if you have anything to write about, do it, but let us know who you are.

P. C. MACKAY.

L. U. NO. 537, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Editor:

The smell of spring is in the air, it's time to take a trip; a lot of trout need pulling out, so let us pack our grip. We'll overhaul the good old bus and feed her oil and gas, with rod and reel and also creel, strike for some mountain pass.

Forget about our many woes, abandon every care, and look behind each hill we find to see what's hiding there.

Our good old Brother, Telley B., will sneak up in the hills, and what he seeks along the creeks will give him lots of thrills.

For with his "quick" and miners pick, he'll prospect round for gold; alas, alack, he'll soon come back with nothing but a cold. Now, Brother Telley, let me state, is quite a mining guy; he mines, you see, beneath a tree, nor opens either eye. The mountains now are beautiful, the snow-flowers bloom up there, the poppies bloom, and wild birds zoom through the balsam-scented air.

We pitch our camp in some green glade, beside a bubbling stream, and fish or hike, do as we like, or loaf around and dream.

But all good things must end at last, and soon it's time to scram; we pack our junk—it is the bunk—to take it on the lam.

And then we all get back to town and go our different ways, and scratch the gosh darn poison oak for 47 days.

D. H. TRUAX.

L. U. NO. 558, FLORENCE, ALA.

Editor:

Muscle Shoals, the heart of the TVA, coming down the line doing 92 miles per hour.

In my last article I told about the get-together at Wheeler Dam, Alabama. Well, we staged it, so now it goes into the events of the past. It was a grand affair with 15,000 present. But as usual the advertised speakers of the day were prominent by

their absence. Well, the substitution was very good.

To begin with, the demonstration of first aid was well worth the trip. This was a competitive drill between two teams, one from Norris Dam against one team from Wilson Dam. The latter was declared the winner with 97 per cent. Very rarely does a team receive 100 per cent. The effective manner in which this was put on shows the reward of much hard work and study on the part of the teams, and is well worth while if one will only stop and think just what this means to us fellows who are doing the work on the different TVA projects. It just amounts to this: to the unfortunate man to be hurt, he will be handled and prepared for the doctor in the best way as trained by the instructors of the U. S. Bureau of Mines. I will state right now if there is anything the TVA is not doing along the lines of education and recreation let me know what it is, and I bet it is not practical.

June 12 I represented Local 558 at a meeting of delegates from all crafts to make arrangements to have a labor school, the sponsors to be the Tri-Cities Central Labor Union. For the last year and a half every method had been put forth to encourage workers to take advantage of the educational programs rendered by the TVA, but they have done so in small numbers.

Changes are still being made in the substation yard at Wilson Dam under Brother John Sharp. Poles are being set for the re-routing of the Wheeler Dam 44,000 volt line. The new line will run from Wilson Dam to Wheeler Dam instead of steam plant to Wheeler Dam. This will include erecting four steel poles 55 feet high and about four wooden structures.

The foundations for the steel towers on the Gorgas-Wilson Dam 154,000 volt line are being built and re-routing of this line will begin soon. This line is now on temporary structures but will soon have steel towers through the reservation.

Work has actually begun on the erection of the new 125 ton crane for loading barges at Wilson Dam. This crane will take the place of the 25 ton crane now in service. This crane was needed to handle the large tonnage for Wheeler Dam.

Last Friday night, June 21, Local 558 held election of officers for the next two years, the same officers being elected. Brother Joe Stutts, who so ably filled the chair for the past few years was again elected president. This boy Stutts deserves a lot of credit. Like all local presidents he has his knockers. Members of locals should realize that their officers must have their ideas and co-operation. This local in the past two years has had, what I term, a mushroom growth. Some of these mushrooms have proven to be poisonous, but I think we have the mushroom situation very well in hand.

The rural electrical lines with Brother Perry at the helm are still going along at a steady gait.

Owen Waldrop, superintendent of construction on Norris Dam Line, will be fully under way by the 15th of July working a crew of from 100 to 150 men. Many of these men are members of Local 558.

JOHN GRAHAM.

L. U. NO. 561, MONTREAL, QUE.

Editor:

The election of officers of Local Union No. 561, I. B. E. W., for the term 1935-1937 was held at the regular meeting of June 4 and with the exception of one vacancy on the executive board all officers were returned to their respective offices by acclamation. The officers for the ensuing term are as follows: President, Brother T. Smith; vice president,

Brother G. Hassan; financial secretary, Brother C. Gallagher; recording secretary, Brother A. Leger; treasurer, Brother J. Parkin; executive board, Brothers T. Smith, C. Gallagher, A. Leger, J. Parkin, A. L. Taylor, R. Humble and R. W. Worraker, who was elected to fill the vacancy.

There was a large attendance at the meeting and the officers were greatly encouraged by the constructive manner and dispatch in which the business of the evening was transacted and we are looking forward for the same consideration and co-operation throughout the coming term. General Chairman L. A. McEwan was also present and his explanations and advice on various matters were greatly appreciated by the assembly.

The open charter period which has been in operation throughout the months of March, April and May, with the kind permission of the International Office, will continue throughout the months of June, July and August. This will afford a rare opportunity to those who were unable to take advantage of the attractively low initiation fee during the first quarter of the open charter period. The campaign up to the present time, considering the difficult times which we have passed through and from which we are slowly emerging, has been quite a success. The outstanding feature of the campaign up to the present time is the success achieved by the committee at the Canadian National Railways, Point St. Charles shops. At the beginning of the campaign there were 50 members and eight non-members at this point. They have improved our position to 56 members and two non-members. So with the splendid team work that exists at this point it is reasonable to assume that they will be 100 per cent organized by the time the campaign closes.

The status of organization, in our jurisdiction, on the Canadian National Railways is now as follows:

		Non-	
		Organized Members	
Point St. Charles Shops.....	56	2	—
St. Henry Coach Yards.....	15	—	—
Tunnel Terminal.....	15	—	—
Road Department.....	4	4	—
Longue Pointe.....	1	—	—
Turcot Roundhouse.....	2	1	—
Unattached.....	1	—	—
Totals.....	94	7	—

Brother P. Mouton, craneman, C. P. R. Angus shops, locomotive department, passed away on June 23, after a short illness. Brother Mouton was a member of Local Union No. 561 for many years. He is survived by his wife and a large family.

I now take the opportunity of asking our membership to keep in mind the vital importance of keeping their standing up-to-date. The practice of some to take advantage of the 90 days' grace is a dangerous one and should be avoided—something may happen that would make it impossible to catch up and result in the loss of their standing. Some members' wives think so much of the benefits accruing from their hubby's membership that they see to it that his standing is kept up-to-date. They can't go wrong. "Thar's gold in them thar hills" worth striving for.

C. GALLAGHER,
Financial Secretary.

Don't stare up the steps of success, but step up the stairs.



Marking the graves of I. B. E. W. members. A committee from L. U. No. 724 (old L. U. No. 696), Albany, N. Y., visits the cemetery.



The fan-shaped grave marker of heavy bronze bears the insignia of the Brotherhood.

L. U. NO. 568, MONTREAL, QUE.

Editor:

Extra! Extra! All about Local 568!

Many a sun has set on the island of Montreal since we appeared on the pages of the JOURNAL; "but time and tide wait for no man."

So here is a brief resume of conditions as of this date. Conditions here are not all that one could desire, but there is some apparent improvement. Some of the boys who have not been enjoying the enforced holiday are back on the pay rolls of the contractors, which tends to make the atmosphere more cheerful at our meetings. We do not sing very loud, as we don't consider we are out of the woods yet.

A good number of the boys are working on the LaSalle substation job, for which Bedard and Girard have the contract, and they are playing ball with us 100 per cent. Thanks to the management of the firm, and Brother Guibert, if one wants to work for this shop he must present a card before he unpacks his tools. They believe a card today is worth two tomorrow. A number of the officers of this local are working on this job, so you can see there is nothing getting by. Brother Thouin's favorite statement is: "Pas de carte travail pas"—"No card no work," and surprising as it may seem there is very little weeping and wailing, and gnashing of teeth. We feel very grateful to this

firm for their co-operation, and sincerely hope this co-ordination may last for many years to come.

Some of the other firms are casting a weather eye toward us, feeling inclined to line up with us full force. As our members hold key positions in most of the larger shops we already have the thin edge of the wedge inserted. With every blow of the old sledge it is bound to sink deeper.

Much of Brother Boyer is again seen on the city streets, busier than a one-armed paperhanger with the seven years' itch. He certainly takes a lot of joy out of the lives of the boys trying to play hooky—you never know when he is going to show up.

Brother Broderick's familiar face is often seen at our meeting hall. We find many of his suggestions very timely and helpful, and during this troubled period the influence of his steady hand is much appreciated.

In the past few months our membership has steadily increased and the future seems to be still brighter in that respect. But we will always have a vacant chair in our hall for anyone wishing to join us.

The collective agreement in the Province of Quebec has worked quite satisfactorily, that is inasmuch as legislation can work to the benefit of organized labor. There are many improvements we could wish incorporated in the Act.

The joint committee composed of members of the Builders Exchange and members of the various crafts of the building trades seems to be functioning quite smoothly and is ironing out many difficulties very satisfactorily to all concerned. They have also collected many thousand dollars from dishonest contractors who had underpaid their men since the collective agreement went into effect.

We appreciate the list of the official receipts of the different locals published in our JOURNAL as this is the only means of knowing that Local 707 in the Connecticut Valley still exists. I would suggest that they appoint a scribe or that the recording secretary pen a communication to the JOURNAL; as he never keeps in practice, by writing to his friends.

In closing I might state that some of us are very grateful to providence for the fact that we are still one leap ahead of the hounds, and manage to hold the sheriff at bay.

A. S. MACFARLANE,
Recording Secretary.

L. U. NO. 642, MERIDEN, CONN.

Editor:

I am writing this for the purpose of getting some enlightenment on what the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court means to labor. I am under the impression that many of the most obnoxious court decisions against labor have been on the grounds of interference with interstate commerce, and am puzzled as to how it is that a chicken transported from one state to another after it comes to "rest," I think that is what the lawyers call it, ceases to be in interstate commerce, but that an electrical fixture, even after it is delivered at a job, is still in interstate commerce, or a piece of building stone after its delivery at the job is still in interstate commerce. If I am all balled up on this matter will some one kindly straighten me out?

In the light of this recent decision how can a problem, such as unemployment, be handled on a national basis? It's a national problem; how can any of the national social problems be handled? This decision should re-

sult in all workers sitting up and taking hold of their own welfare, by organizing into their respective labor unions, and through them making their own protective regulations, and it should show them that what one gets through legislation can be taken from them in the same way. It was rough on those who are always expecting to get something worth while for nothing, for those who will not spend even one hour a month planning and working for better conditions for those who toil, for those who will not spend a few dollars a month to better conditions of humanity, who will not help build for the future welfare of the children of today and for their children. The "I take it" babies sure got a swift boot from our august Supreme Court and unfortunately these spongers will make it harder for those who work to better humanity.

I suppose we will now be flooded with a lot of pleas for the immediate formation of a labor party. I received a card today in relation to one. Why should labor have to always pay the freight? The way some write and talk about a labor party one might be led to believe it is just as simple as that. I have yet to hear one, who when asked the question, "Who will finance it?" but what they have a ready answer, yes sir, and it is so easy. Why the A. F. of L. has so many millions of members and an assessment of so many dollars per member will raise so and so much. The unions will be the backbone and each union can assess their members whatever amount is needed. Simple is it not? When workers show that they know more about voting than merely marking a cross or pulling a lever, and do that by voting for the best man, regardless of what ticket he is on, or what party name he runs under, then I can see a fair chance of a real labor party action and the other guy will pay a good part of the costs.

Lots of people poke fun at the policy of elect your friends, defeat your enemies, but to my mind this is a sound policy and one whose potential effects have not even been surface scratched. Some who want to start a labor party do not know even the requirements to get the party on the ballot, they have not even thought of the cost of sending a one cent postal card to the electorate, they talk about changing our rotten borough system but don't know how to amend the constitution of the state, and when they learn how they say that's a hell of a way, but like it or not that is the way it has to be done, unless they are ready to do it by revolt. In my mind, before a labor party is started, a thorough study of the duties and functions of the various city, town, village, borough and state offices should be made, and when we know those things we will be able to carry out a program and conduct a government.

If many of our members, and that means officers, leaders and would-be leaders also, paid as much attention to their union affairs and organization work and junked their political office dreams, quit their petty haggling and buried their personal jealousies, we would all be better off. It will be a great day when we workers start fighting for each other and quit fighting each other.

Once away back in the life of England three grave and august judges undertook to declare an act of the English Parliament illegal, and since that none have repeated it, and therefore, the cure applied was not required since.

Back in ancient Roman rule they once had a supreme government of five wise men. Later it was three. In this country we have sometimes nine and sometimes five. There was this difference, however, in ancient Rome, the five had the power conferred upon them, but, in this country, the Supreme Court

took the power to declare an act of Congress unconstitutional by an interpretation of their own. This is generally called usurpation. Now, why not Congress do a little taking back of what the Court took from them?

Why does not Congress provide that materials for every contract for government supplies, buildings, roads, bridges, ships, etc., be made, manufactured, fabricated, assembled, processed under decent conditions and that all material of whatsoever kind or nature be mined, grown, developed, changed from raw to finished products or parts be done under humane, decent conditions, and hold sub-contractors and sub sub-contractors to the same conditions and support actively the workers who strike against the gypers and prohibit the courts having anything to do with it, and treat any judge who butts in the same way the three English judges were educated. That education has lasted a long time. There is one angle to those court decisions, and that is it takes the executive department to enforce them. Who can bring the courts into disrepute but the courts (judges) themselves? Why is it that anything that even tries to benefit the masses is unconstitutional, and it does not matter how big the vote in the House or Senate is? We live under a government of sometimes five and sometimes nine men. By the way, there are no women on that bench, so us men will have to take it all.

H. A. G. GEIS.

L. U. NO. 648, HAMILTON AND MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

Editor:

It seems to me that the hue and cry raised by organized labor on the Supreme Court's decision invalidating the NRA is far-fetched. In raising this cry organized labor is, I believe, admitting its own weakness. Just why labor should rely on government and politicians to better its conditions I cannot understand, because it is a proven fact that politicians, generally, promise everything and do nothing in behalf of labor.

It is squarely up to labor to fight its own battles, and therefore, every effort should be made by organized labor to organize workers. It is true that this is a great task because, as Brother Thomas Dickert points out, most men believe that it is only necessary to join a labor organization then they will immediately receive the benefits which all union men know come only after continued struggle.

To better illustrate the point let me add that we, here, have had our share of unemployment, and our members have suffered, but in the past year we have secured three PWA projects and all are union jobs, but when these jobs started some misguided individuals were under the impression that it was merely necessary to come to the union, make application for membership, and be placed on the job right now, regardless of how long our members have been unemployed.

As one who is in a labor organization and who has talked unionism and organization to both organized and unorganized, I know what great obstacles are in the path of men trying to make men understand the real and true meaning of unionism, its aims and its purposes, the unselfish united effort and the sacrifices necessary to gain its goal.

As I see it the initiation of an applicant is likened unto a child entering school, it is the beginning of a union education for coping with the economic situation that confronts labor and necessarily entails much collective unselfish sacrifice and effort, and a constant studying of every available means to advance both as an individual and as an organization.

The ELECTRICAL WORKERS JOURNAL is, I feel sure, the best educational labor journal that is put forth by any labor organization, because it not only covers the electrical industry, but also a varied field in economics. This journal should be thoroughly read by all electrical workers who receive it monthly, and any union-minded men in any labor organization should be made acquainted with it.

FRANK VIDOUREK.

L. U. NO. 665, LANSING, MICH.

Editor:

I promised the Brothers last month I would let them know when the Fisher body job broke here. As yet we have no further information. The job is still on the fire, don't know when it will break. We have some local work here that is just about keeping our own members busy so there are no extra jobs in Lansing at present.

Where do all of the electricians come from? Our business manager tells me that he has had as many as 35 up to see him in one week looking for a job, but as usual only one or two of the 35 had cards. Some of them never heard of a card before.

Every meeting we have from one to six electricians (so they think) who want to take out a card. Some of them are local men and some are from out of town. The majority of these men have never had a card and only want to get one to work on the Fisher job. Most of the local ones are men we have been trying to get in the local union for the past 15 or 20 years and most of the time they refused to talk to us. I personally believe that we should turn the tables now and refuse to talk to them.

The conditions on Fisher body jobs were largely brought about by the work done by Local 58 of Detroit, Mich., who have at the present time between 500 and 600 members out of work. I believe these members should be given work rather than take in some man who only wants a card to work on this job, and fully intends to drop it again unless there is another job in sight.

In Lansing we have devoted plenty of time and money to get better working conditions and after we get them the open shop contractor has to meet practically the same condition to hold his men and the result is men in the open shop are getting something for which they spend no time or money, and I say now if they want better conditions and more money let them do a little work themselves and line up the shop in which they are working.

Let the members who have been paying dues for the last four years and getting no work, have the work on the good jobs.

CLEO G. FOX.

L. U. NO. 702, ZONE B, DANVILLE AND CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

Editor:

Another month gone by and much has happened since the last writing. An agreement was reached in the strike situation here in Danville, Champaign and other southern Illinois cities affected by the shutdown.

The agreement reached by Vice President Mike Boyle, associates, The Utility Operators Association and The Illinois Power and Light Corporation, became effective June 6, 1935, with the agreement that striking employees be restored to their original jobs with full seniority rights as of April 2, 1935; within 10 days from that date, June 6, pay to begin June 6.

Everyone received some increase in pay, but we have to be contented with an open shop agreement at present, I guess. As a whole, however, the agreement was very agreeable

and drawn up in very good form as far as the Brothers could see.

At this writing the utility side has broken their part of the contract in nearly uncountable instances, while the local has lived up to every letter of its part, which action seems to show who is able to be trusted to keep agreements. My idea is that if any party doesn't wish to live up to a contract, they should never sign one. But it seems these big companies can be very bad little boys when they want to.

Five union men have been laid off here since the Brothers went back to work even though they had as high as 17 years more seniority than some of the "new" employees. Several of the men who were working at the time of the strike have as yet never been returned to work. These men of course are going to be remembered by the rest of the boys and I think you know what I mean.

The great majority of men working here have not been returned to their original jobs and many have "new" men as supervisors over them.

All these transgressions and many others have been reported to Business Agent Eugene Scott and we hope the transgressors will have honesty enough to do the right thing without us having to bring more economic pressure to bear on them.

I have been reading the papers quite a lot lately and I, along with thousands of other union men and their friends, look with a bad taste in our mouths at the extreme methods used in the Oregon lumber strike, the Omaha strike and others.

It seems extremely unfortunate that we allow men of such a low calibre in our high political and police offices, of such low calibre that they have not the proper respect for union men attempting to get better working conditions, shorter hours; all these conditions leading inevitably to the employment of more men and the ultimate lifting of this nation out of the last traces of the mire of depression.

We of this section know exactly how those lumber workers must feel, for we had the same conditions existing here in this city's police force. In fact, it just seemed impossible for local police to be impartial in their policing of our ranks in the recent strike; but we will know better the next time we ever get a chance to vote pro or con for a civil service police force. But I guess we will have to go on with the existing circumstances until some of them fail to pass on examination, or are exterminated by their Maker.

Union forces must rally from all sides to press legislation to protect our organizations against misinformed and stubborn large companies from spending all of their money, and the law's self-respect in combating and destroying the very elements that make their books read in black ink; and that is the buying power of the mass of the people; the laboring man.

Such buying power can only be created by the payment of good wages and leisure time for these men to spend and enjoy these same wages.

But that is enough of this rambling about big business. The Brothers here in Danville and Champaign are all doing their best to live up to our part of the contract we recently acquired, and we hope Brother Scott will be able to clear up the existing differences and I hope to have news at the next writing that the company has awakened and decided to play ball fairly with Local 702, Zone B, I. B. E. W. So until next writing keep a stiff upper lip and watch out for any new way we may find to benefit organized labor, and I also hope that the first of July can see the Wagner bill signed by President Roosevelt.

H. L. HUGHES.

L. U. NO. 723, FORT WAYNE, IND.

Editor:

Chamber of Commerce statistics tell us that there are 275 industrial plants situated in Fort Wayne. Speaking of the more important ones I believe there are not more than one dozen of these plants that are owned and controlled exclusively by Fort Wayne investors and personnel. The majority of our industrial plants were founded by old time citizens whose only knowledge of making money was by offering the public a quality product at prices that the public would pay. Today we have a different picture with the control of most of our plants in the hands of promoters and financiers, who are for the most part, not residents of our city, are not interested in its future and are not concerned with the welfare of its people. As long as the plant will pay dividends, well and good; when it ceases to pay they close it up and move on to the next goldstrike. We have a shining example of this very thing on Wall Street. Some of our most recent labor troubles in Fort Wayne were between firms controlled by holding companies and the different unions.

In the present dispute between the knitters' union and the management of the Wayne Knitting Mills, a Mr. John J. Kronenberg of Chicago rushes down here to call the signals for the knitting mills. Suppose the employees of the Western Gas Construction Co. were to walk out, here you would see a long line of officials from The Koppers Company trekking into Fort Wayne to try to settle the strike. What I am trying to point

out is the fact that in an emergency the officers of most of our local industries are without the authority to act but must contact their superiors in some distant city for instructions. Many of our prominent men have about as much authority as an army corporal with a probationary warrant.

Here lies a large part of the laboring man's trouble. After a concern pays dividends on its own stock, plus that of one or more holding companies, which is all more or less watered, and pays its officers salaries that look like the serial number on an automobile tire, there can be little left for wages.

President Roosevelt's holding company legislation was designed to correct most of these abuses. The American Federation of Labor can render a great service to this country by supporting our President in his plan to muzzle the holding companies.

AARON SCHARLACH.

L. U. NO. 887, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Editor:

The first meeting of this local was held on June 12, and among those present were Brothers Martin, Leonard, Coffin and Guerra, from Ashtabula, O., and Brother Stanley Orr, from New Castle, Pa.

June being election month, officers were nominated for the next two years, and on June 26 officers will be elected. If you are unable to get up to vote on account of train schedules or whiskers too short for a day job, Uncle Sam will see that you get a ballot. If you can get up to meeting you are missing a good time by staying away. Brother Parks will do things to the piano, Harmonica Louie Mohr needs no introduction, neither does Freddie Leach, the announcer. Roses by Ed Wickert.

Brothers Wallenstein, Frank, Criswell and ye scribe, attended a meeting of Wheeling and Lake Erie System Federation at Massillon on June 14. We missed seeing Brothers Boyer and Keehn. We will be there again on July 12. A meeting will be held in Ashtabula during July for the Ashtabula and Conneaut members. The charter is open and we have five applications already, so get busy, Brothers, and bring 'em in. The Nickel Plate has their standard agreement and the System Federation is doing business. Let's make the electrical workers 100 per cent.

BILL BLAKE.

The Worker and Government

Many a trade union local, and many an individual worker, acting to win what they consider to be their rights, have fetched up hard against unyielding obduracy on the part of the law. Courts, lawyers and judges—who knows how many millions of dollars they have diverted from union treasuries, or how greatly they have hampered the course of organization?

On the other hand, though it is difficult and slow, labor's progress is eventually recorded in many instances in laws, statutes, ordinances, like steps cut by a mountain climber in the rock, making it easier for others to follow. Sometimes (too frequently!) courts interfere by declaring such and such a law to be unconstitutional, but if iron determination prevails the principle will be restated, written into the law again—and eventually it will be accepted by the courts. Even the Supreme Court, it is said, pays attention to elections, and has been known to reverse its opinion on more than one occasion.



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It is a view of the law as a rather haphazard, unrelated bagfull of statutes which were put into the bag by pressure from various strong groups, and which may be tossed out or retained by judges and groups of judges who cannot help being influenced by their personal backgrounds and personal prejudices—it is this kind of a view of the law that is presented in a booklet by Lois MacDonald and Emmanuel Stein published by the Affiliated Schools for Workers, Inc., 302 East 35th St., New York City (50 cents). Miss MacDonald and Mr. Stein are members of the faculty of the department of economics of Washington Square College, New York University. Their booklet is entitled "The Worker and Government." It is a picture in broad brushmarks of the many ways the law and the courts enter into the life of a worker because he is a worker, and the casual, rather accidental nature of laws.

It is necessary to remember, the authors declare, that "decisions are often made in the light of the point of view or social philosophy of a judge, and not always on any unchangeable principle of law. If a judge has an opinion on the social value of a trade union, this opinion will creep into his consideration of such subjects as yellow-dog contracts, trade union agreements, or picketing. If he believes that the present depression is of such serious character that an 'economic emergency' exists which is as serious as a widespread fire or flood, he will be likely to uphold, for a time at least, far-reaching legislation calculated to cope with problems of the depression.

"Therefore, justice as meted out by judges, and laws held valid or invalid by them, may be the result of personal opinion." And it is maintained that judges, brought up with a background of economic stability little touched by the labor struggle have given labor legislation "a hard and thorny road to travel."

Two divisions can be made of labor's relation to law and government; the one is the subject of protective labor legislation, regulations pressed into law by labor in regard to industrial accidents, hours of work, child labor, government regulation of wages, and the attempts now going on to achieve unemployment insurance and old age security.

The other is labor in the law courts and his rights as opposed to the employer's rights—which is really the important and practical part of law for the trade unionist and worker. It is quite apparent that the act or statute retains its meaning only in the way it is enforced and in the way it is interpreted by the courts.

Throughout the booklet the view of law not as a fixed principle, but as a fluid, yielding, unstable force is presented by the authors.

"Those who study the history of labor legislation discover that what is held to be unsound at one period is held to be sound at a later period. They discover that in the passage of laws the pressure of powerful groups is a more important factor than is any abstract notion about rights and justice for individuals or

groups. They discover that judges frequently disagree on what is the proper principle on which to act. What seems unwise or improper or unconstitutional at one time is declared invalid; later on, the same law or action may be declared valid. The law is changing, and is responsive, though slowly, to changing conditions."

NOTICE

If this comes to the notice of Brother H. A. Brown, card No. 45970, kindly get in touch with J. W. Johnson, financial secretary, L. U. No. 31, 3624 W. 2nd St., Duluth, Minn.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

(Continued from page 293)

it is well to remember the women and children. Even as "charity begins at home" so does unionism. When we teach our children the simple facts of organization, we have laid a strong foundation for the union cause.

The typographical union of this city has been sponsoring a contest, the union or auxiliary bringing in the most unlabeled literature receives a cash prize.

My little daughters, aged 10 and six, know their union labels and inspect all hand bills, pamphlets, etc., left at our door. When they find some without the union label, there's a yell of joy, a wild rush, and thus our "pile" grows. The children know they are helping mother, the auxiliary and the union cause.

Our auxiliary has won several prizes in this contest and Sister Brown, chairman of the ways and means committee, is right on the job to remind us of our literature.

I thoroughly enjoyed the article, "Can Organized Labor Protect Public Schools?" Every mother should read this. Our school system, the fruit of organized labor's efforts, must be protected. It is up to the parents to be on guard against the cowardly attacks of the wealthy on our schools. When the standards of education are lowered and the worker's child is denied the advantages of school training, the entire country suffers. The well-being of our children means the prosperity and well-being of our country. A well organized teachers union such as we have here is a strong aid against the curtailing of our educational advantages. Organized labor built our schools and we know it will protect them. So here again we women, through our auxiliaries, can be of assistance.

I have been writing (more than I should) of my own ideas and thoughts. However, I stand convicted and promise to give you a detailed account of the doings of Auxiliary L. U. 292 next month.

With apologies,
MAE NESSLER.

WOMAN'S WORK

(Continued from page 292)

flies in epidemics because their resistance to disease was weakened, and a generation grew up stunted because they had not been well nourished in childhood.

The Blockade on Food

There is no blockade on food in this country except the blockade between the producers and the public. In June, packers in Chicago reported that fresh pork was actually piling up, depressing

the market and reducing the prices paid to farmers on livestock generally, and that there was on hand also a large supply of manufactured meat products which could be held for a longer period than fresh meat. Nevertheless the packing industry was said to be "not greatly worried over the state of mind of consumers."

The women of this country, when they have been aroused, have put on some pretty effective public demonstrations, have built mass movements that rolled along gathering momentum until their objective was achieved. Don't forget Carrie Nation and her axe; don't forget the suffrage pickets who were thrown in jail. Ordinarily shy, timid women lose all their self-consciousness when they are part of a movement that they consider just and they are impervious to boos and policemen's billies.

Women who were a part of the suffrage movement, and the prohibition movement, however disappointed they may have been in the final result, will never forget the thrill of their organized endeavor. The housewives strike could be stopped now, by reductions in prices—but the packers "are not greatly worried." It could be stopped if adequate family incomes were possible—but they aren't possible. So it will go on, because it is right, and it is just, and it is necessary to make a public protest when health is being injured and people are actually starving because they cannot get the right foodstuffs. It is women's business to know about this and to take the lead in demanding a real reform in the method not only of producing but of distributing food in this country, and keep on until they achieve it. Write on your banner, "A healthful diet for all Americans," and let's get moving.

In conjunction with this movement it is encouraging to note that there is a much increased interest in union label buying by union men and their families; there seems a genuine desire to get local information on which stores are fair, where union label merchandise may be bought, and where the services of union skilled tradesmen may be obtained. In consequence we have new union label directories being issued in several cities; and we have the local labor papers publishing information and directories with much more interest than heretofore.

Although we have not as yet received details from the third biennial convention of the National Federation of Trade Union Auxiliaries, which met in St. Louis, we know that one of their main objectives was to formulate plans to use the strength of the Auxiliaries in a drive against "chiselers" who try to break down wage and hour standards. Purchasing power of the women is to be the main weapon.

And the convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen last month at Cleveland voted to boycott all Hearst publications, newspapers and magazines alike, in order that their money should not go into the funds of reactionary yellow journalism.



IN MEMORIAM



Harry G. Eastman, L. U. No. 601

Initiated October 12, 1918

Whereas death has again invaded our local union and taken from us our beloved Brother, Harry G. Eastman; and

Whereas we recognize that our local union has sustained a great loss, and in acknowledgment of this loss we have caused the charter of this local union to be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days; and now therefore be it

Resolved, That we commend our beloved Brother to the care of our heavenly Father, while we share with the family of the departed the sorrow that is common to all; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the family; a copy be spread on the minutes of the local union, and a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in our official Journal.

FRANK ANDERSON,
O. L. WELCH,
CHARLES E. HARPER.
Committee.

Edward N. Jones, L. U. No. 139

Initiated February 28, 1917

It is with deep regret that Local Union No. 139 records the accidental death of Brother Edward N. Jones.

Whereas Local Union No. 139 has lost a valued member whose absence will be deeply felt; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union 139 extend to his wife and family our sincere sympathy. May the thought of his many good deeds be a constant reminder to them of his splendid character and his wish to help others. May this thought bring a measure of consolation to them; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of our local be draped for 30 days as a token of respect to his memory; that this resolution be recorded in the minutes of this meeting, a copy be sent to his family, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication.

J. M. DEVON,
I. E. JENSEN,
W. A. WOOD.
Committee.

John J. Hayes, L. U. No. 195

Initiated October 5, 1910

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst, and relieve of his long suffering, our dearly beloved Brother, John J. Hayes, and

Whereas Local Union No. 195, I. B. of E. W., has lost a loyal and faithful member; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 195, I. B. of E. W., extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy to the brothers and sisters of our late departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 195, I. B. of E. W., a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal, and that a copy be sent to the relatives of our late Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local Union No. 195, I. B. of E. W., be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days in respect of the memory of our late Brother, John J. Hayes.

JOHN J. THIELEN,
Recording Secretary.

Thomas O. McVickers, L. U. No. 9

Initiated August 10, 1934

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst, our worthy Brother, Thomas O. McVickers;

Whereas in the passing of Brother McVickers, Local Union No. 9, I. B. E. W., desires to express as best we can to those who remain to mourn his loss, our sincere sympathy; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, a copy placed on our records and a copy sent to our Journal for publication.

GARLAND CATLIN,
EUGENE BLACK,
EARL PEARCE.
Committee.

Elmer P. Welter, L. U. No. 9

Initiated June 21, 1930

Whereas it has pleased Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, to call from our midst our worthy Brother, Elmer P. Welter; and

Whereas in the death of Brother Welter, Local Union No. 9, I. B. E. W., has lost one of its loyal and devoted members; therefore be it

Resolved, That Local Union No. 9 acknowledges its great loss in the death of our Brother, and hereby expresses its appreciation of the service he rendered to our cause; and be it further

Resolved, That Local Union No. 9 extend its condolences to the family of our late Brother in their great sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our late Brother, a copy be spread on the minutes of our Local Union No. 9, and a copy be sent to the official Journal of our Brotherhood for publication.

O. V. MCGARVEY,
ALEXANDER BARKER,
CHARLES MILHOLLAND,
Committee.

D. M. Jacobs, L. U. No. 697

Initiated July 8, 1902

Whereas God, in his infinite wisdom and mercy, has seen fit to remove from our ranks our beloved Brother, D. M. Jacobs; be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 697, I. B. E. W., extend to the deceased Brother's loved ones our heartfelt sympathy and condolence in their hours of bereavement; be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, and copies of these resolutions be sent to the family, the Electrical Workers Journal, and spread on the minutes of Local No. 697 in remembrance of his unselfish devotion for the cause of true unionism.

FRED W. LOUCKS,
RAY F. ABBOTT,
DUKE MCARTY,
Committee.

D. F. McDonald, L. U. No. 213

Initiated July 22, 1924

Whereas Local Union No. 213 has been called upon to pay its last respects to a departed Brother, D. F. McDonald, who has been a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for many years; and

Whereas it is our desire to express as best we can to those who remain to mourn his loss, our sincere sympathy; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy spread on the minutes, and a copy sent to our official Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in further respect to his memory.

HOWARD ALLEN,
GEORGE NEILL,
CHARLES MACEY,
Committee.

John M. Kavanaugh, L. U. No. 193

Initiated November 7, 1906

Whereas Almighty God has taken from us our esteemed and worthy Brother, John M. Kavanaugh, who has passed on to his greater reward;

Whereas Local Union No. 193 has lost a true and worthy Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That we pay tribute to his memory by expressing our profound sympathy to his family in their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family; a copy be spread upon the minutes of our local union, and a copy be sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days as a token of respect to his memory.

H. R. ARMBRUSTER,
R. L. HAWKINS,
H. BOGASKE,
Committee.

Arthur Odle, L. U. No. 9

Initiated December 28, 1934

Whereas it has been the will of Almighty God to take from our midst Brother Arthur Odle, a true and faithful Brother;

Whereas the members of Local No. 9 deeply mourn the passing of our dear Brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family and relatives of our deceased Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy be spread upon the minutes of this local union, and a copy be sent to our official Journal for publication.

JOHN SAGERS,
JOHN SHATZ,
WESLEY BERRIER,
Committee, Valparaiso, Ind.

John Francis Sieber, L. U. No. 340

Initiated November 21, 1902

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has removed from our midst our esteemed and worthy Brother, John Francis Sieber; and

Whereas the officers and members of Local Union No. 340, I. B. E. W., deeply regret the untimely passing of our friend and Brother member; therefore be it

Resolved, By the members of Local Union No. 340, I. B. E. W., in regular session assembled, That we extend to the family of our late departed Brother, our heartfelt sympathy and condolence; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of our Brother, John Francis Sieber; that a copy be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 340, and that a copy be sent to the International Office with a request that a copy be published in the official Journal; and be it further

Resolved, That when we adjourn this meeting we do so in respect to the memory of our late Brother, and that the charter of Local Union No. 340, I. B. E. W., be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days in continued respect to his memory.

C. E. TURNER,
A. O. HANSEN,
F. J. MAIER,
Committee.

Platt Z. Steenrod, L. U. No. 40

Initiated October 18, 1923

Whereas Local Union No. 40 has suffered the loss of one of its members, Platt Z. Steenrod; and

Whereas it is our desire to express to the bereaved family of our deceased Brother Steenrod our sincere sympathy; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution shall be sent to the family of our deceased Brother, a copy shall be spread on the minutes of our local union and a copy forwarded to the official Journal for publication; be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local Union No. 40 be draped for a period of 30 days in his memory.

J. P. RIPTON,
CHAS. E. DWYER,
H. P. FOSS,
Committee.

M. P. Chumrau, L. U. No. 200

Initiated March 19, 1920

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to call to his eternal rest and reward our very good friend and Brother, M. P. Chumrau; and

Whereas we, the members of Local No. 200, I. B. E. W., deeply mourn his passing and extend our heartfelt sympathy to his wife and family in their hour of sorrow; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his family; a copy be spread on the minutes of the local union; a copy be sent to Electrical Workers Journal for publication, and that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in further respect of his memory.

L. L. HARTSELL,
JOHN PHILLIPS,
STEVE STANNICH,
Committee.

Claude C. Cobb, L. U. No. 124

Initiated July 27, 1922

Though we look forward to the realization that sooner or later we must each lay down the burden of this human span, yet the shock of parting strikes us anew as one by one our friends and dear ones move onward into the infinite.

To L. U. 124 again has come the hour of loss as we record the passing of Brother Cobb, an esteemed friend and valued member, whose absence will be deeply felt; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, in a spirit of brotherly love pay tribute to his memory by expressing to his family our sincere sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in his memory; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, a copy be spread on our minutes, and a copy sent to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication.

J. H. DENNISTON,
J. D. KELLY,
JOE SPECK,
Committee.

DEATH CLAIMS PAID JUNE 1-30, 1935

L. U.	Name	Amount
17	F. J. Wormland	\$1,000.00
340	J. F. Sieber	1,000.00
760	Jas. Whittlesey	300.00
5	R. P. Adams	14.58
I. O.	Geo. Fallon	1,000.00
I. O.	J. P. O'Connor	1,000.00
134	A. S. Rigsby	1,000.00
59	R. C. Earhart	1,000.00
166	C. F. Murphy	1,000.00
9	D. J. Davies	1,000.00
98	P. V. Saull	1,000.00
762	G. D. Lytle	1,000.00
459	A. W. Pavlik	300.00
134	B. E. Palmquist	1,000.00
595	L. M. Antley	1,000.00
134	E. C. Buchanan	1,000.00
601	H. G. Eastman	1,000.00
200	M. P. Chumran	1,000.00
3	A. J. Young	1,000.00
124	C. C. Cobb	1,000.00
I. O.	J. I. Byrne	1,000.00
3	M. J. McGrath	1,000.00
596	H. Hathaway	1,000.00
52	G. Stiehl	1,000.00
210	A. G. Watkins	1,000.00
98	F. Reilly	1,000.00
I. O.	C. W. Cady	1,000.00
I. O.	J. H. Clayton	1,000.00
194	J. F. Soards	1,000.00
I. O.	D. M. Jacobs	1,000.00
134	Jas. Clishem	1,000.00
3	J. J. Doherty	1,000.00
195	John Hayes	1,000.00
I. O.	Isaac Huden	1,000.00
213	Donald F. McDonald	1,000.00
561	P. Mouton	1,000.00
Total		\$33,614.58

40-HOUR WEEK PACT WITHOUT PAY CUT ADOPTED BY GENEVA LABOR CONFERENCE

(By A. F. of L. News Service)

Geneva, Switzerland.—The International Labour Conference adopted the convention approving the 40-hour week principle, but calling for separate conventions to make it applicable in each industry. The vote was 79 to 30.

This is interpreted to be an important advance in the direction of hours reduction made by the Conference since 1919, when its first session in Washington approved a convention to establish a 48-hour week. That convention has never been applied largely because the British Government refused to ratify it.

The four United States delegates—Dr. Walton Hamilton and Miss Grace Abbott, representing the government; Henry Dennison, representing employers, and Daniel W. Tracy, representing labor—voted for the convention. The opposition consisted entirely of employer delegates plus the government delegates of the Netherlands and Switzerland.

LABOR DEPARTMENT IS 50 YEARS OLD

(Continued from page 283)

economy and the enhancement of human welfare, the bureau today is more than just a fact-finding body.

The first United States Commissioner of Labor Statistics, Carroll D. Wright, who assumed office in 1885, had previously been the Chief of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labor Statistics, the world's first governmental body to be charged with the gathering of labor data. Dr. Wright, a lawyer by profession, was a great advocate of collective bargaining and of the use of sliding hourly scales in making wage adjustments. He remained commissioner for 20 years and laid the foundations of much of the work of the bureau today. After leaving the bureau he became president of Clark College in Worcester, Mass.* During his lifetime he served as president of the American Statistical Association, the American Social Science Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

In February, 1905, Commissioner Wright was succeeded by Charles P. Neill, a former professor of political economy at the University of Notre Dame and at Catholic University in Washington, D. C. Dr. Neill held office until 1913, when the Federal Labor Bureau became the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor. After leaving the bureau he became associated with the American Smelting and Refining Company.

Built Up Index Numbers

During the two administrations of President Wilson, Dr. Royal Meeker, who had been an assistant professor of political economy at Princeton University, was Commissioner of Labor Statistics. Many of the most valuable series of index numbers published by the bureau at present trace their origin to the association of Commissioner Meeker with the bureau. In July, 1919, he founded the *Monthly Labor Review*, the official organ of publication of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. After serving as commissioner, Dr. Meeker first became the chief of the scientific division of the International Labour Office of the League of Nations, then the Secretary of Labor and Industry for the State of Pennsylvania. Following that, he engaged in various social research activities. Since 1930 he has been president of the Index Number Institute at New Haven, Conn.

Ethelbert Stewart, who succeeded Dr. Meeker as Commissioner of Labor Statistics in 1920, was a newspaper editor until he first became associated with the United States Bureau of Labor in 1887. In 1912 he became chief statistician of the Children's Bureau and in 1913 Chief statistician of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. He served on various federal boards during the war and became Commissioner of Labor Statistics in 1920. After resigning in 1932 he retired, a

*It is significant that Dr. Lubin, present commissioner, is a graduate of Clark.

delightful old man with a keen sense of humor. While in office Mr. Stewart was said to have always kept an eagle watch out for correctness in minute details.

Dr. Isador Lubin, the present Commissioner of Labor Statistics, was appointed in 1933. One of his early official acts was to call together union leaders and representatives of labor research organizations to inquire how his bureau might better serve the needs of labor. He very graciously received both the criticisms and the constructive suggestions offered at that conference. Some of the ideas presented were adopted, others were not. On the whole the friendly feeling and the will to co-operate between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the individual labor groups were considerably strengthened by that session in Washington.

Lubin Shapes New Work

In addition to augmenting the good will between his organization and the trade unions Dr. Lubin has contributed greatly to the value of the bureau's statistical data. Its cost of living index has been thoroughly revamped; the base period for its employment payroll and other leading index series has been changed from 1913 to the three year average for the years 1923-5. The shifting of the base period to more recent times results in a more ready comparison of present conditions with those of the immediate past—an essential feature for data to be used in wage negotiations or in watching current changes in economic conditions.

In the *Monthly Labor Review* the Bureau of Labor Statistics presents current information on a great diversity of subjects all of which are related in some vital way to labor. Probably the most valuable works of the bureau are its publication of monthly figures on the number of wage earners, their wages and conditions of employment in leading industries, and its index number showing the trend of employment and payrolls in those fields. A list of the types of industrial enterprises upon which this data is regularly reported would include 90 manufacturing industries, building construction, wholesale and retail trade, steam railroads, anthracite and bituminous coal mining, metalliferous mining, quarrying and non-metallic mining, crude petroleum producing, laundries, cleaning and dyeing establishments, banks, brokerage, insurance and real estate houses, and such public utilities as telephone, telegraph, electric light, water and gas, and motor bus and street car transportation.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics also conducts surveys from time to time on the productivity of labor, on changes in labor turnover, on industrial health and hygiene, on occupational diseases and methods of preventing them, on industrial accidents, safety and workmen's compensation, on workers' education and vocational training, on housing, on labor laws and court decisions, on industrial disputes, strikes and lockouts, on foreign labor affairs. It reports on

collective bargaining agreements and on local changes in the wage rates or working hours of labor unions. The bureau is widely known for its regular publication of data on wholesale and retail prices and on changes in the cost of living. In addition to the above activities, the bureau undertakes special studies on specific industries, such as its surveys of the technological displacement of workers through the installation of dial telephones, and the adoption of new machinery and new processes in the rubber and the automobile industries. It not only conducts investigations of its own, but also makes available to workers and to others interested the results of studies involving labor made by other branches of the government.

Bureau of Immigration Described

The Bureau of Immigration, like the Bureau of Labor Statistics, outdates the Department of Labor, of which it is a part. It was first established in 1891 and given the task of administering the Chinese exclusion laws. Because the unrestricted flow of immigrants to this country following the World War threatened to reduce the opportunity of native born Americans to obtain employment and tended to force down their wage levels, it became necessary to protect the interests of the American workingman by establishing an annual immigration quota for each country. The Bureau of Immigration also administers the Dillingham immigration law which establishes these restrictions. The bureau maintains inspection services at the various ports of entry to the country, where it receives and examines newly arriving aliens and debars the inadmissible. The bureau also deports those who have been found to have entered the country illegally.

After an alien has entered the country the Department of Labor's Bureau of Naturalization, created in 1906, stands at his service to assist him in gaining citizenship papers, if he so desires, and to educate him in the principles underlying such citizenship in his adopted country.

The Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor was organized in 1912. It had an original annual appropriation of only \$25,640 with which to carry out its purpose, "to serve all children, to try to work out the standards of care and protection which shall give to every child his fair chance in the world." The Children's Bureau began its work under the able leadership of Miss Julia C. Lathrop, who for many years had been associated with that other grand lady, Miss Jane Addams, in the founding of Hull House in Chicago.

The work of the Children's Bureau in reducing the infant and maternity death rates in America has been perhaps its outstanding achievement. Its bulletins instructing mothers in the care of young children rank consistently among the best sellers of the country. The bureau was largely instrumental in securing the passage by Congress of the Sheppard-Towner Act in 1921, which authorizes federal grants to states establishing public clinics in which mothers may learn how best to protect the health of their babies. The Children's Bureau is also engaged in working out standards of protection and care for dependent, delinquent and handicapped children. Juvenile courts and children's institutional homes come under its surveillance.

With the World War came the entrance of large numbers of women workers to industry. New problems were created; new

standards of hours, wages and working conditions were required. In 1929 a Women's Bureau was established in the Department of Labor to promote the welfare, improve the working conditions, increase the efficiency and advance the opportunity for profitable employment of women workers. This bureau conducts investigations and supplies information for the use of employers, employees, the federal and state governments and others on standards relating to women in industry. Among other problems it studies the cases of women who work and manage households at the same time and women who must support families out of their earnings.

The United States Employment Service, organized in June, 1933, is one of the latest additions to the Department of Labor. It supplants a former placement agency operated by the department. It was created to promote the establishment and maintenance of a national system of public employment offices. The employment service administers federal grants to co-operating state placement agencies.

One of the most interesting services which the Department of Labor performs is the work of its division of conciliation in maintaining industrial peace. This division is directly operated by the Secretary of Labor. It is not the policy of the division to interfere, unasked, in ordinary industrial disputes. If, however, either the workers or the employers involved request the Department of Labor to assist by acting as a third mediatory party, or by arbitrating the case, the division of conciliation is there to aid. If stringent public necessity demands immediate settlement, the Secretary of Labor has the authority to intervene without being asked; this power, however, is seldom used. During the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1930, the conciliation service handled 534 industrial disputes involving directly and indirectly over 350,000 workers. It had 42 additional cases pending at that time. The conciliation service has been able greatly to reduce the number of disputes in this country which reach the strike stage before settlement, saving millions of dollars to workers and employers alike.

The Department of Labor, among its many other services, maintains probably the best labor library in the United States. Students of labor economics come to Washington from all over the country to use it in carrying on their researches.

INTERNATIONAL FAIR GETS UNION AID

(Continued from page 287)

in other sections of the country bloom out of doors in Balboa Park.

Visitors are treated to a view of one phase of life in old California in the village known as "Gold Gulch." This is a reproduction of an early western town, and to heighten the mood, it can be reached only by stage coach or by miners' burros. Bold bad men and dance hall girls populate the town and there is a blacksmith's shop, an iron-barred bank, sour-dough shacks, mining operations, sheriff's office and jail. Another colorful section is the Indian Village, a reproduction of the Taos Pueblo, where 15 Indian tribes carry on the communal life in the traditional manner.

The Spanish Village, said to be the largest unit of its kind ever built for an exposition, shows the picturesque ar-

chitecture of a sleepy little Spanish town. It has its olive trees, its merchandise bazaar, and a gay patio cafe to welcome visitors. The House of Pacific Relations, 15 hacienda-type cottages with floral patios surrounding a central court and fountain, is dedicated to international peace and amity with South American countries.

Besides the long list of exhibits there are other attractions on land and sea.

The entire United States Atlantic and Pacific fleets will spend two different periods of two weeks each at San Diego during which time they will be open to visitors at the exposition. Yacht regattas, motor boat races, swimming contests, aquaplane events, polo matches are among the sports events.

Musical presentations are a daily feature at the exposition grounds, where the magnificent Spreckels outdoor organ is played in a concert each day; and at the Music Bowl, an outdoor amphitheater, where symphonies, musicals, chorals, band concerts, ballet and stage presentations are offered in generous variety.

Displays Are Lavish

Among the displays that occupy their own palace buildings are:

Palace of Foods and Beverages—displays, exhibits and demonstrations of everything from the latest patent can-opener to the most modern multi-operations bottling machine.

Palace of Fine Arts—one of the finest collections of old masters and modern art exhibits in the United States, including Ruben's "The Holy Family."

Palace of Photography—the Fifth Annual Solon of Photography, in which photographers from all parts of the world are competing.

Palace of Water and Transportation—animated exhibits and displays, telling the story of transportation progress for the past 400 years.

Palace of Better Housing, and its adjacent Federal Housing Administration exhibit—home building from attic to basement.

Palace of Education—modern scholastic training.

House of Charm—center of style and domestic arts.

Hollywood Motion Picture Hall of Fame—the story of motion pictures, graphically represented, and such curios as Charlie Chaplin's big shoes, Mary Pickford's curls, and similar "museum pieces."

House of Hospitality—a meeting and resting place for visitors.

Cafe of the World—a restaurant where foreign visitors from all nations may find their native dishes, tastefully served.

Federal Exhibit Palace—exhibits from 20 government departments, in a \$350,000 building of unique Mayan design.

California State Building—displays from each county and an exhibit by the state government, showing the many products of the state.

The Ford Palace—devoted to actual

manufacture of parts for Ford automobiles, and display of Ford and Lincoln cars.

Standard Oil Exhibit Palace—travel information, graphically set before the visitors' eyes by use of a huge map with vari-colored neon tubes forming the principal highways.

Bank of America Building—the "smallest big bank in the world," containing full banking facilities.

Christian Science exhibit building with a model reading room and a historical display of the church. The Christian Science Monitor, international newspaper, plays a major part in the exhibit.

Hollywood Potteries—the most improved methods of manufacture of clay products.

DEPRESSION TAKES TERRIFIC TOLL

(Continued from page 285)

	Inside			
	Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total
Miscellaneous (drowning, vehicular)	5	27	6	38
Tuberculosis	4	24	1	29
Pneumonia	4	24	2	30
Total				151

1931

	Inside			
	Linemen	Men	Misc.	Total
Electrocution	11	6	....	17
Falls (fractures, breaks)	5	5	....	10
Burns (explosives, etc.)	1	....	....	1
Miscellaneous (drowning, vehicular)	4	11	3	18
Tuberculosis	8	20	4	32
Pneumonia	9	27	4	40
Total				118

1932

	Outside		Inside		Total
	Men*	Men	Misc.	Misc.	
Electrocution	12	5	1	....	18
Falls (fractures, breaks)	7	12	1	....	20
Burns, (explosives, etc.)	4	....	2	....	6
Miscellaneous (drowning, vehicular)	5	....	....	....	5
Tuberculosis	7	10	2	....	19
Pneumonia	5	17	3	....	25
Total					103

1933

	Outside		Inside		Total
	Men*	Men	Misc.	Misc.	
Electrocution	9	4	1	....	14
Falls (fractures, breaks)	3	7	....	....	10
Burns (explosives, etc.) .....	....	....	2	....	2
Miscellaneous (drowning, vehicular) .....	....	....	....	....	....
Tuberculosis	7	14	....	....	21
Pneumonia	7	26	....	....	33
Total					80

1934

	Outside		Inside		Total
	Men*	Men	Misc.	Misc.	
Electrocution	15	2	2	....	19
Falls (fractures, breaks)	6	9	1	....	16
Burns (explosives, etc.)	1	1	2	....	4
Miscellaneous, (drowning, vehicular)	2	9	1	....	12
Tuberculosis	8	21	....	....	29
Pneumonia	6	21	4	....	31
Total					111

*Instead of the category linemen, outside men is used, which is slightly more inclusive.

†Includes railroad workers, cablesplitters, etc.

NOTHING TO WRITE ABOUT

(Continued from page 289)

floor. "I gif it a look anyhow," he said and shrugged disparagingly.

That didn't take him long. He undid a glass wall case and fingered its moldy woolen contents.

"Rotten shoddy," he stated, his diagnostic fingers probing in faded cloth. "Sell 'um vor oldt rags, dat's all."

He moved along making further contemptuous inventory. Then in two short words he rendered an authoritative judgment. What evidently he meant to say was "Just junk." What it sounded like was "Chust chunk."

He added a postscript: "Vorth nothings. I lose money. Gif eight dollars vor the whole chob lot. Dake ut or leaf ut!"

"Get out!"

"Vot?"

"You heard me. Get out!"

"Oh, vot's der differences—von dollar more? Nine dollars—gash down!"

"I told you to get out."

"Ten—absolutely postiffly I stop dere."

"Say," said Mr. Lounsbury, and there was cold-blooded and deliberate murder in his voice, "are you going to get out or have I got to kick you clean down those steps?"

"Oh, I go," said Mr. Krauskoff. He paused at the exit. "I go, only blease don't make me laugh. Oldt sucker like you couldn't gick a seek rabbit downstairs!"

Mr. Lounsbury waited until Mr. Krauskoff was gone. Then slowly he got up on his feet; he was still sucking on the soggy butt of a dead stogy.

He went over and opened a little narrow cabinet behind the presiding officer's desk and from it brought forth the Post flag—a faded blue thing with tarnished gold fringe and some half-erased gold lettering on it. On the staff it made an awkward thing to carry. So he separated it from the staff the fragile silk tearing a little in one or two places, and he folded it up in a square and put the square under his coat and buttoned his coat over it and stumped down-stairs.

Half-way down he remembered he had forgotten to lock the hall door, coming out. He didn't go back though to lock it. He kept on.

Around at the *Argus* plant young Emory Schultz was grinding out his grist of copy—"personals" mostly, and "social jottings."

"How about the rummage sale or whatever 'twas?" asked Editor Pollard, sifting through the first sheets of penciled manuscript.

"Oh, there wasn't anything to write about over there," said young Schultz, so filled with the pride of creative authorship that he didn't even look up from his stint.

"How come?"

"Well, I didn't get by there till late—not till just a little while ago. And there wasn't anybody around only old man Reg. Lounsbury. He was just coming away looking sort of glum, the way he always looks. So I asked him what there was to write about, and he looked at me like I was the dirt under his feet or something and he said there wasn't a dam' thing to write about, and then kept right on out Hopper Street. Seems like that old dodo gets more and more grouchy ever' day he lives! But say, Boss, I got a dandy piece for the paper out of Ed Whalen of the Five and Ten. He's fixing to break ground for a new two-car garage at his house out in Horton's addition. He's going to tear the old garage down and, put up a swell two-car one, all solid concrete."

"Good!" said Mr. Pollard. "Give that a nice spread, and while you're about it, say something nice about Ed Whalen. The Five and Ten's one of the best advertisers we've got."

MEMBER CREATES NEW PRINCIPLE FOR AIRSHIP

(Continued from page 286)

to go around it, we simply turn on the elevators and jump over it, to a height of 30,000 or 40,000 feet, if necessary."

He suggests that such a craft might be used for flights into the stratosphere, attaining an altitude far greater than the 61,000 feet recently achieved by scientists in a free balloon. His interest, however, leans more toward its commercial possibilities. Brother Rose has studied every angle and every phase of this field, and when he speaks, it is from one who really understands and knows his aeronautics. He says his ship will maintain a 14 hour schedule between Los Angeles and New York City; that he can carry passengers at three cents per mile and make plenty of profit. I have been very skeptical of lighter than air craft, since the last two large ones that the U. S. Navy had collapsed, but I am certainly sold on the possibilities of the type I have just explained. At the present time Brother Rose is selling stock in the effort to build an 18 passenger ship. There is much more to be said about this wonderful craft but space will not permit. But I will say this much, any one interested get in touch with Brother Rose. His address is 14215 Kittridge St., Van Nuys, Calif., and he can explain more thoroughly its capabilities than I have done.

CASEY'S CHRONICLES OF THE WORK WORLD

(Continued from page 284)

I went over to the camp an' when the men were gone out on the job I went in to the cook tent. The cook was a big, good natured feller an' he says, 'What's yer name?' 'William Sims,' says I. 'Well, Billy. You're goin' out to do some real hard work an' you'll need good chuck to keep yuh goin' so sit down to the table an' fill up.'

Good Food Helps

"I took a seat at the long table an' he brought me a tin plate o' porridge an' a jug o' milk, an' jus' as I finished that he sat down a plate of hot flap jacks an' a pitcher o' maple syrup an' followed up with bacon an' eggs, fried potatoes, bread an' butter an' a big steamin' cup o' coffee. Gee! I never remembered such a swell feed before in my life. I guess the boss had told the cook all about me, fer he said, 'Now Billy, you're goin' to find the work awful hard till yuh get used to it but, no matter how bad yuh feel, keep on pluggin' away. The boss hates a quitter an' we get quite a few o' them in a season. Yer hands is goin' to blister an' crack handlin' a ten foot an' a half steel bar but when they do you come aroun' to me I got some stuff that'll fix 'em up.' Well, Slim, I never know'd people could be so kind before, all I could think to say was, the boss an' you has been mighty good to me an' I'll show yuh I am no quitter. The straw boss give me a diggin' set an' started me. Well it was a tough job all right diggin' six foot holes in hard clay an' my hands blistered up something fierce but the cook doctored 'em up. One of the diggers, a little French Canadian, showed me the easiest way to dig an' I worked hard an' in a few days I was able to make a fair showin'. In the meantime teamsters was unloading poles at the holes an' a framer was roofin' 'em, cutting the gains an' puttin' on a four pin cross arm. They was 40 footers. We was rebuilding an old 25 foot lead which carried a No. 9 iron toll line wire. When we had about a couple o' miles o' holes dug the straw boss took nearly all us diggers back an' we started to set poles. That was a little easier than diggin' an' I soon got on to it, besides we was all workin' together an' they was a good natured bunch allus joshin' an' the time passed quicker. Comin' along behind was a gang o' four linemen transferrin' the old No. 9 on to the 40s an' stringin' in a new pair o' 14 coppers. I watched them linemen climbin' up an' down them poles so careless an' easy an' right there I made up my mind I was goin' to learn to be a lineman.

Toil Not Easy

"Us grunts was all pretty tired after our 10 hours a day in the hot sun an' after supper most o' them would lay down on their bunks an' others would go an' play poker at a cent ante an' 10 cent limit an' they used the iron washers for chips, but I wanted to be a lineman.

There was one little hiker about my size called 'Buzz,' I ferget what his other name was, an' I up an' asks him one night to lend me his climbers to practice on. He says, sure an' I'll go with yuh to see yuh start. So we goes back the line a ways an' 'Buzz' starts me. Of course yuh know what happened. I hugged the pole an' slid down, filled my hands full of splinters, tore my overalls an' mussed myself up generally. Buzz laughed an' said, 'Kid, yuh sure must o' jarred yer system up some,' an' then he showed me the proper way an' I soon got on to the knack o' it an' I went out by myself every night an' it wasn't long before I could navigate up an' down pretty fair. One day one o' the linemen quit to go on some other job. That night the boss called me into his tent an' told me to sit down. I sat down wonderin' what was up. He said, 'Son, yuh made good in this outfit an' I been noticin' that yuh aint been wastin' yer spare time layin' around or playin' poker. You're the only one in this bunch that's had guts enough to get out an' learn to climb. I'm a lineman short so you go out in the mornin' with the linemen. I give the head linemen orders to work yuh on the 25s to untie the No. 9 an' take off the old cross arm. Here's a belt, pliers an' connectors an' a pair o' hooks that'll fit yuh an' yuh can use 'em until we break up camp in the fall. Take yer duds an' go over an' bunk in with the linemen from now on.'

"He noticed I was tryin' to thank him an' he said, 'That's all right, son, an' I know you'll make the grade, maybe I'll get you on in some town fer the winter.'

"I started out the next mornin' an' got along fine an' it wasn't long before I was takin' my turn on the 40s. Buzz was the life of the gang. He was a good climber an' used to like to see how quick he could drop down a pole. The others used to josh him about tryin' to beat the world's record for fast climbin'. Buzz says, 'I ain't aimin' to do that but I hold a world's record right now that aint ever been broken.' The fellers laughed an' said, 'How cum?'

"'Well,' Buzz says, 'I was workin' fer the Western Union down south. They had a good-sized lead along the railroad that was so old that it was ready to fall down, so they built a new lead on the opposite side of the tracks an' took all but one wire down off the old lead. They sent me out one mornin' to cut down the poles on the old lead. I chopped down the first pole an' the next one went down, an' they went down fer 36 miles an' I ain't heard tell o' any one beating that record.' The gang all hollered and laughed an' said, 'You win Buzz.'

Happy Days of South

"Well, sir! I often look back on that summer as one of the happiest of my life. The

weather was fine an' those new 40s was easy to climb an' the fellows were full o' fun an' used to razz me in a good natured way an' say, 'Hey Kid! Don't yuh ever laugh?' I used to try to join in the fun some times but I never made much of a success of it, I'd never had any chance to develop that part of my nature. When I slept in the big tents with the grunts they had two or three nights every week set apart for a special program. When we was all in our bunks the custom was for the nearest man to the door way on the one side to start. He had to sing a song or tell a lie or make a speech, an' so it went the rounds and the final wind-up was, what they called a symphony, they all joined together each man singing his own particular song at the top of his voice, an' you can imagine what that 'ud sound like. Sometimes, when they would keep it up a little late, the boss would let a roar out from his tent an' say, 'Hey, you gazaboos, pipe down an' let the people in this district get a chance to sleep,' an' I noticed he never had to speak the second time. In the line tent we had things fixed up fine, each man had a portable cot with a mattress, which was quite a change from the grunts' outfit where the beds were made of a strip of heavy canvas along each side of the tent, leaving a passage way of about three feet in the center between them. These canvases were stretched out on a frame work of poles about a foot off the ground. The bunk spaces were separated from each other by poles held by loops in the canvas. We had plenty of blankets an' the bunks were fairly comfortable an' if yuh wanted fresh air all yuh had to do was to lift the canvas wall at yer head an' yuh had all out doors to breathe in. When we had to move camp, which was pretty often, a couple o' men could roll up those bunks around the poles in a few minutes. In the linemen's tent we had our little concerts too. 'Buzz,' an' a feller called Jack Martin, could play mouth organs fine. Jack would play the air an' 'Buzz' would play the alto, an' boy! when they would play 'Home, Sweet Home,' or some of the plantation melodies nobody could help singin', yuh'd even hear the boss do a little croonin'.

"Philpotts, the other lineman, was a good singer, an' I found out I could carry a tune so we used to do the vocal part. I often wished that job cud last forever. When camp broke up that fall I sure hated to say good bye to the gang, an' most of all to the boss an' the cook, fer they sure gave me the breaks. The boss called me into his tent an' said, 'Son, yuh got grit. Yuh'll take this letter to the local manager of the town it's addressed to an' he'll put you to work. Yuh won't make as gooda' money fer awhile as yuh made in camp but yuh'll learn the business an' that's the best thing to do at your age. I'll make yuh a present of the outfit I lent yuh.' The last words the boss said to me was, 'Son! Take care of yer money an' keep clear o' the booze. Some of these hombres, that's been with us all summer 'ull have all their wages blowed in in a day or two, an' they'll be on their uppers until spring.' We had finished our section o' the line to the office of the company in a small town. I went to a hotel, got my dinner an' wrote a letter to my old friend the farmer, put a \$10 bill in it and asked him an' his wife to put a few flowers, once in awhile on my mother's grave. I bought a ticket an' caught a train to the town I was billed for, an' landed there early in the afternoon, hunted up a boardin' place where I left my old grip an' then went out an' bought an outfit of clothes; yuh see I only had my workin' clothes. I had about \$150 an' I got a great kick out o' buyin' the things I needed. I had it all sent up to my room an' I went



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an' got a hair cut an' shave. When I got back to my room the stuff was all there. I paid the landlady a week's board an' room in advance an' then went an' had a bath an' after that I put on everything new from head to foot, put my new dicer on an' looked in the glass. I was surprised. I said to the other feller, 'Why, how dju' Mr. Sims! I don' believe we've ever met before,' an' then we both laughed. I went out an' started down the street to the telephone office. On my way I couldn't help but notice the maze of wires, there must o' been 12 or 13 10 pin cross arms on the main lead on one side of the street an' on the other side was a lead of light wires an' everywhere I looked it seemed to me that the air was full o' wires. I begun to wonder how I'd ever know one from the other an' I was pretty near all the way back in my shell by the time I got to the office. I give my letter to the manager an' he introduced me to the foreman who happened to be there. The foreman asked me a few questions about who I'd worked fer an' so on an' then told me to report for work in the mornin' at seven o'clock. Next mornin' I showed up bright an' early an' went out with the straw boss an' four other linemen to string a pair o' wires. We shouldered three or four coils o' No. 12 iron wire, a leather bag o' insulators an' each man had a hand line. I never could figure out since why the company ever used such heavy wire. Seven strand guy wire hadn't come into use yet an' they used to use No. 6 iron fer guys an' that would stretch an' they couldn't hold their heavy leads on curves an' corners. I seen us start in pullin' slack on the top arm an' by the time we got to the bottom the top wires would be all bellied down with slack. Any other phone company I ever worked for used No. 14, an' one place I worked they used No. 16 an' after the heavy stuff that seemed like a thread to me an' I was afraid to make a joint in it crossin' over hot stuff fer fear it would break an' start fire works."

(To be continued)

GENEVA: CLEARING HOUSE OF WORLD LABOR

(Continued from page 278)

also to that promulgated by provincial, state, county, and city governments.

Miss Grace Abbott, the head of the American delegation, long known for her aggressive and liberal fight for the elimination of child labor in the United States, was honored by becoming the head of the committee on the unemployment of young persons. This subject created the most interest in the conference outside of that of the shortening of hours. A gray-blue report prepared by the secretariat of the International Labour Conference points out that one-fourth of the total number of unemployed throughout the world consists of young persons under 25 years of age. Robert Fechner, director of the Civilian Conservation Camps, gave Delegate Tracy a great deal of information regarding the unemployment and employment of young men gathered from his experience with the camps.

American delegates discussing the question of the barrier of language re-

ceived a suggestion from the American delegate for labor which will be of interest to the readers of the **ELECTRICAL WORKERS' JOURNAL**. The delegate pointed out that if the United States remains in membership and good standing in the International Labour Conference machinery should be set up in the workers' education field for the training of young workers in the United States in French and German. There is little doubt that a delegate who can speak more than one language widens his influence and his leadership. It is true that Hayday speaks only English and Jouhaux only French but Mertens surely secures in part his place of leadership because he is a linguist. There is no reason why Americans cannot master languages as well as Europeans, even if the opportunity for hearing the spoken word is much less.

The hall where the conference meets is wonderfully adequate for such an occasion. It is wired not only for the telephonic system of Mr. Filene for interpretation but also with an excellent public address system that does not squeak or squeal. It is carpeted with a floor covering that prevents noise, and the whole mechanism of the conference runs off smoothly and well. There are postal and telegraphic facilities within the building, a good lunch room, and office space for members of the secretariat. The only drawback to the conference hall is that there is little space for caucus meetings. This overflow was taken care of in nearby halls. The workers' group meets in the building of the Société des Amis de l'Instruction, made notable several years ago when the entire delegation from other countries walked out in protest against the seating of the Fascist delegate.

These notes are being scribbled early in the conference. This, therefore, must be regarded as what newspaper men call a background story. However, your correspondent believes that background forms at the present the most important fact about this conference. With the sweeping away of the NRA in the United States by the Supreme Court decision, all Americans in Europe agree that the International Labour Conference becomes much more important as an agency for setting up high labor and social standards. The delegation of the United States has played a remarkable part already in the conference and, to the surprise of themselves perhaps, have found that they are the delegation most in unanimity and farthest to the left. Everywhere the experiments of the United States are looked upon with respect and oftentimes with admiration.



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U. S. WORKERS LEARN FROM 40-HOUR WEEK

(Continued from page 280)

be prosperous no matter how enlightened its people.

2. On the technical process; ability to eliminate waste, and increase production.
3. On gold supply and banking system.
4. On profits taken, and their use.
5. On markets, foreign and domestic.
6. On purchasing power of consumers.

New hours worked may or may not be a factor in prosperity. If the technical process is so advanced, the number of hours worked can be greatly decreased. When man-power was hand-power, the loss of one man would curtail production; but with every industry geared to turn out twice as much goods as the market can absorb, the loss of man-power can go to an unusual extreme. It is this realization that has led labor unionists to declare for a short work week. This declaration is in effect a contention for spacing of workers in such wise that all workers shall get rich benefit from rich technological attainments.

If 30 men produce 3,000 units of work in a week of six days

Let 36 men produce 3,000 units of work in a week of five days.

So runs the argument.

No doubt that employment (technological) due to displacement of men by machines would yield most of its asperity by this innovation, but what of unemployment due to cyclical rise and fall of business? What we know as periodic hard times?

With the extra day of leisure the worker was conceived as having time for self-development, recreation, home-building, and civic activities, which hitherto he could not have. And these values are important. They are a test of civilization; and if there were no other arguments for the 40-hour week, these are strong enough to push a willing industrial civilization into the abbreviated work-week column.

But it was also conceived that Saturdays off would mean more gasoline consumed, more auto tires worn, more motors scored, more athletic shoes donned, more sandwiches eaten; in short the five-day week is expected to boost the sales of luxury goods. This is another reason why the automobile manufacturers, and some others, are strong for the proposal.

Why, it is now time to ask, is the five-day week not instituted at once, and why do we not enter into such a golden era immediately?

Cyclical unemployment, recurring depressions, over-production, under-consumption—like names for the same set of economic occurrences—present the answer. To see how they apply let's go back to our formula.

Thirty men produce 3,000 units of work in six days, receiving \$1,500.

Now let 36 men produce 3,000 units of work in five days, receiving \$1,250.

One man's share per week in the old regime—\$50.

One man's share per week in the new regime—\$34.60.

With the five-day week on the old wage basis each worker has more leisure, but

less money to spend. Mayhap he will have to sit at home Saturday, and let the old flivver rot in the garage.

This is a serious question. For the best approach to the solution for cyclical unemployment—recurring depressions—appears now to lead along the road of increased consumption through increased purchasing power.

The dilemma is this: Shall we mitigate technological unemployment by the five-day week, only to increase cyclical unemployment through decreased wages? Of course, labor is keen enough not to get caught easily. We note that contractors in the building trades were alarmed at the five-day week movement because the unions are asking the same wages for five days as for six.

This is a sound economic position. Labor must contend that;

Thirty-six men producing 3,000 units of work in a week of five days shall receive \$1,800 or more.

On the face of it, the movement for the five-day week looked innocent enough, but, like all economic measures, it soon inducted us into the sharp struggle of economic groups for a larger share of produced income. As one corporation head recently put it, in my presence, "If this railroad installed the six-hour day, who would pay the subsequent 25 per cent loss in production? Of course, the fair answer is, "Labor has not yet received a just share of the produced income. Indeed, labor and the underlying population, have not benefited proportionately at all in the increased production that technological achievements have made possible. Huge fortunes have been piled up; speculation has increased; genius has intended to bless all of mankind, and yet labor's share remains virtually the same as it was in the old handicraft days."

Even so, granted that labor is successful in maintaining the same wage for five days as for six, unemployment of the cyclical type is likely to persist. It is likely to, because many complex factors enter into the working of the business cycle.

We shall hold in mind that the struggle for the 40-hour week is but a way-station in the struggle of labor for a fuller share in the products of its own labors. Every argument that can be used for the 40-hour week and all experience derived from the experiment with the 40-hour week now going forward in the United States can be applied to a shorter work week than 40 hours.

V

Social Sanctions for the 40-Hour Week

Charles Steinmetz, who somehow kept clear his vision despite the fact that he worked for one of America's largest commercial corporations, nicely draws the distinction between false values and real values in life. "Efficiency of life," Steinmetz declared, "is measured by how large a part of life we have to dispose for ourselves, not occupied by necessities but free to fulfill life's aims as we understand it." This talented little man went on to point out that 100 years ago in the 10-hour day American life was 28.1 per cent efficient; on the eight-hour day beginning in 1916, American life was 35.1 per cent efficient. Leaping ahead, Mr. Steinmetz calculated if we could cut working days to 200 per year and working hours to four a day, efficiency of life could be raised to 53.4 per cent. This

will be a distinct shock to those employers who conceive industry and business merely as an enterprise for making money. Mr. Steinmetz conceived it as an enterprise for advancing human life.

As United States workers began to face the practical problem of the short work week they began to learn many things about themselves as individuals and as groups. They found, for instance, that W. Burke Harmon, president of the Harmon National Real Estate Corporation of New York City, declared that "the five-day week is having an important effect on home ownership." Dr. E. E. Rittenhouse, president of the Life Extension Institute, declared, "evidence found in the mortality records indicates a marked decline in the power of the American workers to stand the strain of modern life. In the natural order of things the human machine will wear out and life must end." Prolongation of life and usefulness is an inevitable result of the shorter working hours.

In the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers we have discovered that the short work week has not brought demoralization to our members. They have not gone off in frivolous occupations; they have not crashed up, morally speaking; they have not wasted their time gambling, but they have turned like other good citizens to enjoyment of this leisure, often in their homes or gardens, or in wholesome sports and amusements.

VI

Concluding Statement

In the United States where technology is farther advanced than perhaps in any other country, the 40-hour week is an actual condition of labor. American workers have discovered that it is technologically possible to apply the 40-hour week to each and every industry without serious loss in production. American workers have discovered that when a short work week is instituted with no loss in pay that the business cycle tends to be flattened out and business is stabilized toward a more lasting prosperity. American workers have also discovered that there is a greater gain in culture, happiness and health, when the short work week is instituted. Despite this record, despite the fact that the 40-hour week is not an academic question but an actuality, we expect it will be opposed in this conference on virtually the same basis that it was opposed in the United States. We urge employers not to erect barriers against a peaceful and scientific solution of the practical problems of industry by voting against the universal 40-hour week in this conference.

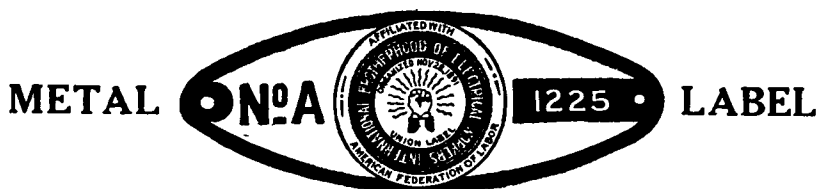
When reason points the way the mind should follow and the resultant correct policy be formulated. Employers who refuse to take such a step are creating the conditions in which class warfare thrives.

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3	NG, 52881-53000	59	576498 576573	143	405936 405953	260	651476 651479	417	315373 315418
3	NG, 53144-53200	60	727501 727580	145	148514	263	235754 235776	418	33072 33080
3	NG, 53288-53400	65	678544 678706	145	432081 432146	265	263721 263729	418	471032 471046
3	NG, 53479-53772	66	178661 178664	145	464925 464984	267	61197 61200	418	684992 685103
3	NG, 53801-53896	66	231485 231515	150	684051 684061	268	261759 261767	421	7901 7901
3	NG, 54001-54187	66	651101 651420	151	44728	268	417720 417735	424	944608 944617
3	NG, 54201-54318	67	522921 522932	151	638570 638807	269	589648 589694	425	262145 262148
3	NG, 54401-54457	68	436794 436808	152	779951 779970	271	592192 592220	426	199080 199082
3	NG, 54601-54699	68	440983 441000	153	31222 31224	275	963250 963270	426	951397 951406
3	NG, 54801-54895	68	798751 798791	153	148305 148331	276	482900 482942	427	527776 527844
4	254159 254167	69	532999 533001	155	300046 300050	277	294357 294367	428	519301 519316
5	344 345	70	229099 229114	156	520255 520275	278	24755 24766	430	195757 195757
5	428884 428956	70	958620 958626	158	441094 441117	281	252458 252458	430	499626 499646
5	587535 587539	73	15961 15972	159	604006 604061	281	683308 683333	431	39346 39348
6	142011 142032	73	22321 22330	160	164449 164455	284	971816 971831	431	193471 193488
6	533031 533250	73	456746 456750	160	252269 252296	285	497134 497148	434	945461 945470
6	733501 733503	73	736501 736563	161	903556 903570	288	55223 55226	435	403621 403670
7	592600 592766	76	565898 565937	164	266131 266240	288	612913 612965	437	222205 222224
8	377138 377239	77	183175 183255	164	676511 676900	290	961050 961056	438	379418 379458
8	594866 594914	77	680841 681311	164	677251 677260	291	342209 342237	438	728299 728350
9	143684 143705	79	424405 424486	166	213564 213584	293	309136 309144	440	914047 914054
9	615974 616174	80	277658 277662	166	239553 239554	295	918275 918277	441	939561 939574
9	270883 270886	80	965674 965700	166	507951 508001	296	653311 653321	443	216499 216510
9	457221 457270	81	487041 487081	169	631758 631764	302	25904 25905	443	442201 442250
10	246660 246672	82	396683 396750	173	524701 524703	302	290533 290555	443	893291 893302
12	183187 183194	83	64943 64950	173	651893 651900	304	530657 530694	444	340678 340703
14	37404 37416	83	157651 157657	175	38948 38949	305	238480 238500	445	241022 241035
16	217268 217272	83	697066 697289	175	967165 967195	305	753001 753012	445	270489 270489
16	559992 560158	84	261555 261577	176	13621 13653	306	28256 28257	446	952995 953015
17	644611 645000	84	708784 708900	177	493085 493136	306	347661 347690	449	910760 910769
17	735001 735170	86	406763 406930	177	672791 672834	307	248451 248459	453	53777 53778
18	133349 133381	86	497650 497800	178	505802	308	211386 211386	453	251920 251966
18	256038 256050	87	886054 886058	181	657111 657152	308	249146 249163	458	481976 481994
18	614726 614110	88	663786 663803	184	444578 444581	309	469688 469709	461	864684 864707
21	254205 254214	90	9999 9999	185	197311 197312	309	532687 532848	466	308611 308650
22	325460 325500	90	657939 658110	185	729771 729824	311	400988 401050	468	666451 666458
22	419335 419400	91	237576 237584	186	957828 957841	313	248242 248270	470	250231 250237
22	525901 526009	93	935218 935223	190	519685 519715	317	17621 17636	471	250614 250650
22	805501 805641	94	940335 940340	191	935356 935365	322	958890 958892	474	669041 669103
25	592360 592500	95	235131 235150	193	58735 58748	324	200023 200023	475	247094 247100
25	712501 712650	96	18681 18682	193	418441 418443	324	698290 698324	475	941599 941617
26	168584 168600	96	29903 29918	193	527293 527400	326	418400 418500	479	225177 225177
26	448201 448227	96	309981 310055	193	533429 533465	326	663001 663019	479	495735 495735
26	659337 659641	99	126781 126784	193	538651 538739	329	177357 177359	480	248758 248771
26	75756 75758	99	400643 400650	193	738086 738183	329	222549 222549	481	34438 34467
26	589024 589115	99	498151 498247	194	534970 535004	329	518234 518278	481	575944 576000
27	185456 185468	99	551598 551717	194	802542 802651	332	48945 48957	481	803251 803301
31	184660 184684	100	26793 26793	195	147824 147824	332	475362 475362	483	23728 23728
31	633494 633639	100	36947 36948	195	703646 703765	333	426642 426741	483	610013 610106
32	627522 627537	100	283096 283122	197	522627 522641	336	636691 636696	488	31395 31403
33	247208	101	284646 284653	200	40515 40520	338	908685 908693	488	549193 549245
34	39965 39967	103	30165 30180	200	208871 208990	339	586641 586683	492	543267 543354
34	436342 436491	103	126714 126723	203	501315 501317	340	348750 348750	497	204594 204603
35	681834 681860	103	346691 346920	205	525907 525925	340	732751 732815	499	176742 176744
35	419665 419715	103	555773 555800	207	686200 686203	341	284052 284060	499	255307 255316
36	21966 21969	103	576751 576910	209	486416 486428	342	644597 644602	499	489797 489852
36	486148 486199	104	538723 538915	210	68715 68715	343	40839 40850	500	563821 563950
37	375958 375979	105	488147 488159	210	666108 666174	343	949733 949761	501	94728 94742
38	391010 391244	106	202781 202789	211	429541 429590	344	652148 652159	501	507901 508088
38									

national and the widow of a southern hosiery worker killed in a Philadelphia strike two years ago.

The assistance of a number of labor leaders has been secured and they will speak and lead discussions on the history and tactics of organized labor. Steve Nance, secretary of the Georgia Federation of Labor, and Mark Starr, educational director of the I. L. G. W. U., will be the first speakers in the series.

ON EVERY JOB *There's a Laugh & Two*

We finally have Hendrick's consent to publish his fish story, which we were going to do anyhow. Maybe this is the surprise you were counting on, Masterson!

We have seen so many white lies on our laugh page (most of them from "Memphis on the Mississippi"), that I thought I would send you one from "Rock Island Dam on the Columbia."

A couple of years ago, when the first half of the big cofferdam was pumped dry, four of us old-timers—Bill Maxie, Jack Younger, Fred Heberlien and myself—were sent below to hook up a couple of 440-volt portable pumps. The muddy pool was just alive with big salmon, steelhead, trout, pugs, carp and one big sturgeon was seen 16 feet long. When the water got low we succeeded in shocking and catching one big 45-pound salmon and hauled her up the dry side to the deck. We planned to have fresh broiled salmon with our lunch. So we built a fire, cut her insides out, skinned her, and while Straw-Boss Ward went after an axe to cut her head off, she gave one last flop and over the wet side she went. And, believe it or not, the last seen of her she was heading full speed up the river. Any of the aforesaid Brothers can vouch for my story.

WALTER H. HENDRICK.

* * *

Here's another fish story and some might think it had Hendrick's beat—for veracity at least.

'Way Out Thar, Where the Big Ones Are

A few of the boys made up a fishing trip to go up north of the city, a few miles. Pudge Burnett carried along a throw line. They arrived at the river bridge just at dark and just as it started raining. So Pudge, he baited up his throw line with nice juicy night crawlers, and with a mighty heave he cast it way out thar where the big ones are.

And when the morning broke bright and fair, lo and behold, Pudge had thrown over an eddy of back water and fished all night on a gravel bar.

GREENE,
L. U. No. 481.

* * *

Now we've got a hunting story but we do not think this is true because we never saw an Irishman who wouldn't ask for a drink if he wanted it.

It was a damp chilly day, and McPherson and Pat O'Brien were out in the woods of Perth, Scotland, hunting. Mac had a bottle and when the damp chill became a bit oppressive, he took a drink out of it but never offered Pat a sup. After this had happened some three times or more, Mac took out his pipe, filled it and looked about for a place to scratch a match.

"Pat," said Mac, "do you see anything dry enough to scratch a match on around here?"

"Well," said poor thirsty Pat, "You might try my throat."

M. J. BUTLER,
L. U. No. 3.

Well, Steve, we'll start reminding you to come back about September.

Alibi In Rondeau

Now summer's come. Beneath its spell
I'll spend scant time on doggerel.

Pursuing the elusive rhyme
Is no fit sport for summer time,
When greens are perfect, fairways swell.

There winter's languors I dispel
And when my mashie's working well
I garner many a wagered dime,
Now summer's come.

When autumn comes I'll give 'em hell
With ballade, rondeau, villanelle.
However, right at present I'm
Too busy at my pet pastime.
'Til autumn then, a fond farewell.
Now summer's come.

SLEEPY STEVE,
L. U. No. 9.

* * *

Dog Bones By Fisher

This happened this winter while putting in a job for Fisher Body at Janesville, Wis.

The chap that had charge of the plant cafeteria was nicknamed "Chief." It seems he was having a number of kicks on the food. He was giving the bones left over to the assistant manager for his dog. The A. M. said to him one day, "Chief, could you leave a little more meat on those bones?" The Chief looked at him a second and then said, "By gosh, is the dog kicking too?"

S. H. BENBOW,
Local No. 58.

* * *

The Parrot Could Talk

Tim Finnegan was a barber. He worked in a shop where the boss barber kept a parrot for a pet, a very swell bird. Now, Tim was a crook in his heart, and one day when the boss barber was out to lunch he grabbed this Jew duck, cage and all, and moped.

Later he sold the bird to a speakie owner and then lammed out of town till the heat was off.

Returning to Chi a year or so later, and passing the shop, he gandered in the window and there was the parrot back again. The barber in charge was a stranger to Tim. Now, Tim was very curious to know how the parrot had been recovered, so he entered the shop, requested a hair cut and opened the subject with great diplomacy.

"Nice bird you got there," said Tim to the barber.

"Oh, yes," said the barber.

"Can he talk?" asked Tim.

"Oh, yes, good talker," said the barber.

"Well, make him say something," requested Tim.

"O. K.," said the barber. "Who stole you, Polly?"

"Tim Finnegan," said the parrot, "The *!?!;æ&\$."

SLEEPY STEVE,
L. U. No. 9.

The Hardware Shop

A few days ago some of the boys of L. U. No. 613 were sitting around telling some of the things which had happened in their past experiences in the electric game.

One of our most truthful foremen spilled this one: He claims that one day while sitting around the shop a negro came in and gave him a note from one of the engineers of a building in town. It read like this:

"Please send me 50 yards of rope, 50 yards of string, 50 faucets, fifty unions, 100 stoppers, 200 bottles and one pound of ribbon."

He said he told the negro, "Hell, black boy, you want a hardware store."

The negro replied, "No, suah, boss, he said for me to bring it to you."

So to fill the order he sent him R. I. cord for rope, lamp cord for string, key sockets for faucets, for unions, socket caps; stoppers, knobs; bottles were tubes, ribbon was tape.

Let's hope this doesn't burn up the "Worker."

T. G. HARRIS,
L. U. No. 613.

* * *

The Lights of Hope (Continued)

I have beat Old Man Depression;
I am back at my profession;
And I'm working at my trade
Now every night.

I have loafed for most five years,
Now the darkness disappears;
When I twist my wrist, I flood
The dam with light.

WALTER H. HENDRICK.

(From a pretty place out in the West
Where the River "Wauna" flows,
Where the fir tree and the cedar
In majestic splendor grows!)

(Wauna is an Indian name for Columbia.)

* * *

John: Why do you call my nose a bridge?
Jim: Because so many schooners have
passed under it.

* * *

Jack: They call Bill a chiropractic drinker.
Jim: Why do they?
Jack: Because he's been stiff in practically
every joint.

JOHN MORRALL,
L. U. No. 134.

* * *

A Man's Final Objective

He learns intelligence at home. Common sense must be self-developed. Learning he obtains at school. Knowledge is what the world hands him. Judgment comes with his years. Experience is a bitter medicine he must take, administered by life itself and relished with a bit of conscience. Wisdom is a phantom he often chases but seldom overtakes. Success or failure are matters of his opinion. Reputation, his golden scale—and contentment, his final objective.

G. L. MONSIVE,
L. U. No. 595.



I HAVE BUT ONE SYSTEM OF ETHICS
FOR MEN AND FOR NATIONS—
TO BE GRATEFUL, TO BE FAITHFUL
TO ALL ENGAGEMENTS AND UNDER
ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, TO BE OPEN
AND GENEROUS, PROMOTING IN THE
LONG RUN EVEN THE INTERESTS OF
BOTH: AND I AM SURE IT PROMOTES
THEIR HAPPINESS.

—*Thomas Jefferson.*

